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Harborplace, a shopping center in the Inner Harbor, has filed for bankruptcy but will continue to operate.

Harbor mall owner files bankruptcy due to debt

By SAM ECKSTEIN
Staff Writer

General Growth Properties (GGP), one of the biggest mall operators in the country and in Baltimore, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy earlier this month.

The Chicago-based company's \$27 billion debt forced 158 of its over 200 shopping centers to file for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, including Harborplace in the Inner Harbor. GGP also owns Towson Commons, which has not filed for bankruptcy.

When a company has filed for Chapter 11, it is permitted to continue to operate as normal while it develops a long-term plan to restructure its business and financial obligations, a process that for GGP is expected to take around 18 months to 2 years.

Harborplace is not in danger of closing due to its bankruptcy, according to William H. Cole IV, City Councilman for the district.

"I don't see this affecting the tourist or visitor experience [at the Harbor]. I don't see this changing anything. Harborplace remains the top tourist attraction in Maryland. I can't imagine any scenario where it won't be there," he said.

Day-to-day operations of GGP's malls
See HARBORPLACE, PAGE A3

Thirty-eighth annual Spring Fair

By POOJA SHAH
News & Features Editor

Last weekend the freshman quad was unusually full, transformed by the smells and sounds of food vendors hawking their lemonade and gyros to students and community members en-

joying the warm spring weather.

The 38th annual Spring Fair began with fireworks on Thursday night and continued throughout the weekend. Other attractions during the fair included a concert by the Roots on Saturday evening, food, arts and crafts vendors, a Beer Garden and carnival style games and attrac-

tions that lasted throughout the weekend.

According to Jane Rhyner, advisor for Spring Fair, this year 65 arts and crafts vendors and 24 food vendors participated in the fair.

In addition, several student organizations that lasted throughout the week-

See SPRING FAIR, PAGE A6



DANIEL LITWIN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR & ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF
Last weekend Hopkins welcomed the local community to Homewood campus with three days of Spring Fair festivities and entertainment.



Univ. takes precautions against swine flu

By LILY NEWMAN
Managing Editor

The state of Maryland reported six possible cases of swine influenza yesterday, three of which were from Baltimore County (at press time none of these cases had been confirmed).

This announcement followed one made earlier in the day regarding the first swine flu-related fatality in the United States. So far, cases of the swine flu have been identified in ten states as well as eight countries.

In the weeks since swine flu first emerged in Mexico, many subsets of the Hopkins community have been rapidly implementing pre-established plans to deal with a possible pandemic. At the forefront of this effort is the Hopkins Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response (CEPAR) which is in charge of planning for community-wide emergencies and implementing appropriate procedures. "We've spent quite a long time over the last couple of years preparing for a pandemic," James Scheulen, the executive director of CEPAR, said. "Hopkins really has done an extraordinary amount of planning

See SWINE FLU, PAGE A6

SGA class election results announced

By DIANA BAIK
Copy Editor

Class officer election results for the 2009-2010 school year were made public at Tuesday's SGA (Student Government Association) meeting. Voter turnout for the classes of 2010 and 2011 was a little lower than usual, with around 300 voters per class, while participa-

tion in the competitive class of 2012 race was very high, with a turnout of 667 students.

Affan Sheikh, who ran unopposed, retained his office as president of the class of 2010. Current class of 2011 President Nick Gilson, also an unopposed incumbent, maintained his position as well. The only contested presidential race was

See SGA ELECTIONS, PAGE A7

City hearing addresses health care disparities

By POOJA SHAH
News & Features Editor

The Baltimore City Health Department held a public hearing last week to address the shortage of primary health care in Baltimore.

The event, held at the Bloomberg School of Public Health on April 21, was in response to a report compiled by the RAND Health Corporation which indicated that the number of preventable hospitalizations in Baltimore city is significantly higher than in Washington D.C. and other areas of Maryland. The report linked the number of hospitalizations with the efficacy of available primary health care.

According to Jennifer Monti, Special Assistant to the Health Commissioner, the Baltimore primary care shortage has been longstanding. The RAND Corporation was commissioned to study Baltimore's health care system in order to quantify the shortage.

According to Monti, there is a shortage of about 150,000 primary care visits per year in Baltimore. However this shortage

See PRIMARY CARE, PAGE A7



JOHN FRENDEGRASS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Abbey Merendino works as an administrative assistant at the Career Center.

Students struggle to find summer employment

In light of economic recession, students wary of job market

By REBECCA FISHBEIN
Staff Writer

Students looking for summer employment may have more trouble this year due to the recession that has plagued the economy since September.

According to the Mark Presnell, director of the Career Center, many students who typically delved into a vast reservoir of paid and unpaid internships discovered this year that they had fewer opportunities for summer employment.

Sophomore Andrew Le-

lin, an anthropology major, hoped to find a paid or unpaid internship this summer. He embarked upon the usual process of internship-surfing, meeting with advisors at the career center and checking various websites for available jobs.

"I went to an internship fair held here and got a lot of information," Lelin said. "I kept looking at different companies' websites and checked Craig's List for jobs."

However, Lelin was very disappointed by the limited postings that he found.

See SUMMER JOBS, PAGE A8

Bike Blast promotes sustainability initiative

By SARAH TAN
News & Features Editor

As a city with industrial roots, Baltimore has recently changed its focus from smoke-stacks to sustainability.

The city, led by Mayor Sheila Dixon, has been working to promote "A Cleaner, Greener Baltimore," which includes the addition of more bicycle trails around the city.

The Baltimore Bike Blast took place on Saturday, April 25 in Druid Hill Park, and was held in order to increase biking awareness among children, families and others who do not consider themselves cyclists.

Since Dixon started Baltimore's Sustainability Plan this past fall, many city-wide programs have sought to promote environmental awareness. The Bike Blast was one

of the many biking programs and events that the city has held since.

The event kicked off at nine in the morning with a biking tour around the park reservoir, led by Dixon.

Afterwards, a number of bike vendors set up stands to educate people about the benefits of biking. In addition, many non-profit organizations, such as

See BIKES, PAGE A7



COURTESY OF SARAH TAN
A truck with bikes offered free rental bicycles to Bike Blast attendees.

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• Hopkins will host a massive job fair this Saturday in anticipation of increased research grants. A2.



SPORTS

• Maybe it was all the sunshine during Spring Fair weekend that helped Hopkins baseball come out on top in three separate games. B10.



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NEWS & FEATURES



FILE PHOTO
Stimulus money could increase the number of scientists employed by Hopkins.

Hopkins will host job fair for science faculty

New federal grants may enable Univ. to hire additional staff

By LAURA MUTH
News & Features Editor

Despite the economic downturn, a federal stimulus bill will enable Hopkins to host a job fair this Saturday in search of science professionals to fill positions that may open as a result of federal grant money.

The stimulus money, divided between the National Institute of Health (NIH) and National Science Foundation (NSF), will be divided among various research institutes based on how many research projects were approved through the institutes.

The bill is officially known as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) and provides for \$10.4 billion to be granted to the NIH and \$3 billion to the NSF. The funds will be distributed sometime between now and September 2010.

Vice President of Human Resources Charlene Hayes believes that the University is likely to receive a significant amount of money.

"Given that we are the number one recipient of federal research grants in the country and have been for 29 years, I think we will be seeing a lot of research grants approved," she said.

The JHU Research Administration official Web site predicts that the University will see a 20 to 30 percent increase as a result of federal research funding.

The upcoming job fair is intended to fill positions that will open after research grants are approved.

For example, the University will need new people to provide research and administrative support for whatever grants get approved through the University.

Other positions may become available in information technology and finance, according to a Hopkins press release. Attendees must register in advance for the fair, and attendance is limited to 1,200 people.

As of yesterday afternoon, 1,000 attendees had registered, according to Cherita Hobbs, senior director of human resources.

When individuals register online, they are given information about the location of the fair. Registration closed last night.

Most of the positions available require at least a bachelor's degree, according to the University's press release. However,

Hobbs also believes that in the future, students might benefit as well.

"I certainly think there will be opportunities for students to get involved in research or internships because of this," she said.

According to Hobbs, the University has submitted over 300 grants and contract proposals so far in fields ranging from environmental health science to epidemiology and clinical departments.

"Some of these applications list students instead of personnel for research support," she said.

This is definitely an opportunity to bring jobs to Hopkins and hire people from the surrounding community.

—CHARLENE HAYES,
VICE PRESIDENT OF
HUMAN RESOURCES

While Hobbs and Hayes were both optimistic about the employment opportunities that the federal grants would generate at Hopkins, Hayes also acknowledged that the situation could be strained, since earlier this year the University implemented a hiring freeze and some departments may eventually have to downsize.

"We're in a situation where we are trying to deal with the economic downturn and make sure that the University is operating more efficiently," she said.

"But what this means is that we have an influx of dollars in some areas while in others we are eliminating positions. That may be confusing to some of our faculty."

She also pointed out that since the NIH and NSF are in charge of awarding the grants, all of the grants will be going to researchers in science and technology fields, so the employment opportunities will be limited to those areas.

Neither had concrete details about what kind of projects would most likely be funded, but Hobbs explained that the grants were meant to supply money for an 18 to 24 month period, so the projects would for the most part be designed to finish in roughly that time.

She added that during that time, everyone hired would be receiving full benefits such as healthcare through the University.

"This is definitely an opportunity to bring jobs to Hopkins and hire people from the surrounding community," Hobbs said.

By THOMAS DANNER
News & Features Editor

Last Thursday, City Council met to discuss the Outer Harbor Initiative, a resolution to direct more resources toward improving derelict neighborhoods that lie outside the affluent Inner Harbor region and other areas throughout the city.

The initiative targets Baltimore's some 17,000 abandoned rowhouses and 13,000 vacant lots and seeks to renovate abandoned properties into homes that families can purchase by enforcing housing codes, renovating abandoned buildings and selling them to new owners.

"As you look at the city, there's this ring around the harbor where neighborhoods have thrived, but if you go just outside that ring, there are a number of neighborhoods that have been stymied in development," said Mike Mitchell, chief executive officer of the Chesapeake Habitat for Humanity.

Financial limitations are likely to prove a major hurdle to the initiative's implementation. William Cole, 11th District city councilman and sponsor of the initiative, estimated that \$20 million of investment would be required.

"I can tell you, that money's not sitting out there right now. So, we'd need something to happen. Frankly, this was the start of a conversation about how to do things differently," Cole said.

Mitchell suggested that some of the financing could come from tax reinvestment.

"There are financing mechanisms in other jurisdictions around the country that allow for the increased tax revenue that results when you redevelop an area to help catalyze more development," he said.

According to Andrew Kleine, Baltimore City budget director, while city officials support the spirit of the initiative, the budget will prohibit the city from reinvesting or providing additional income through taxes.

"We estimate that we're already going to forego \$175 million in property tax revenue in the next fiscal year from a whole variety of tax credits and other tax breaks, some of which would benefit the kind of development that is being envisioned in the resolution," he

said.

"The city has a wide range of critical needs, and we're trying to fund them with not enough money, and we have to really prioritize that funding and not be creating new tax breaks every time we see a worthy project."

Mitchell felt that the initiative was still worthy to pursue, despite the fact that city funding is not forthcoming.

"Ultimately, it comes down to the paradox that Baltimore has 30,000 vacant houses, but there are 30,000 families out there that could be living in those houses. That's a paradox that needs to be addressed," he said.

The initiative calls for the city to invest in three main components: code enforcement, capital and developer participation and neighborhood association or associated marketing.

Mitchell explained that code enforcement was a key component of the initiative's success.

"The city has the authority to prosecute landowners that are not keeping their properties up," he explained.

"So, for example, if you own a house, and it's vacant, and there are rats or crime or prostitution or such things going on in the house, there's an opportunity to prosecute the owner of the house, and basically say, 'Look you need to fix up this house, or someone else will come in who will.'"

According to Cole, the initiative's name is somewhat of a misnomer, as it applies to properties throughout Baltimore, not just those bordering the Harbor.

Some of the areas that are considered part of the "Outer Harbor" include neighborhoods like Pigtown, Madison Park

and the areas above Patterson Park.

Both Mitchell and Cole said that the difference between the Outer Harbor program and existing renovation projects in Baltimore is its holistic nature compared to a more piecemeal approach that has previously been implemented.

"You're seeing pockets of redevelopment [in the areas above Patterson Park], and you now have the foundation of a really good community organization there, and they're doing community cleanups and [police] walks, but the development is happening at a relatively slow pace because it's piecemeal," Cole said. "You're only getting one or two properties at a time."

Cole added that since the initiative is simply a resolution, it does not commit the city to funding the project.

"Right now, there's really not much we can do other than continue to work with Habitat and do what they're doing right now, which is acquire what properties are available to them and finance using the methods that are available to them," Cole said.

"We hope that as we move forward, we can look at this is-

sue from a more global perspective as opposed to three or four houses at a time."

Several community groups spoke at last week's meeting in support of the initiative, including the St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center, a group that helps to create housing opportunities for low-to-moderate income individuals, including Baltimore residents.

The Baltimore Police Department also supports the initiative.

"We do support the initiative of revitalizing neighborhoods and what the commissioner says time and time again, that everyone has a role to play in making Baltimore a safer city," said Anthony Guglielmi, spokesman for the Baltimore City Police Department.

"Taking pride in your home and in your neighborhood makes Baltimore a safer city, and we will and do support any efforts and initiatives supporting that cause."

Cole felt that developing neighborhoods and communities would help to reduce crime.

"Twenty sets of eyes are a lot better than two," Cole said. "You can't tell me that having a full block isn't better for the city, for the police and for all the neighbors than a lone person on one block."



The Outer Harbor Initiative seeks to renovate derelict buildings surrounding the Inner Harbor region.

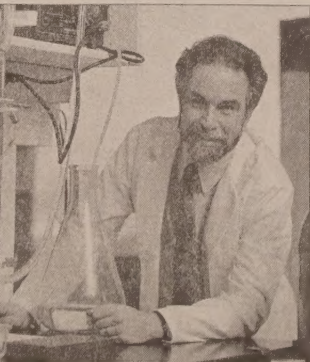
Whiting school to extend master's tuition grants

By THOMAS DANNER
News & Features Editor

Starting next semester, all Hopkins students pursuing master's degrees at the Whiting School of Engineering will receive a 50 percent tuition grant.

Previously, financial aid for master's programs in most engineering departments was determined by merit, with the exception of some combined BA/MS programs. Now, to encourage more students to continue on to earn their master's, grants will be awarded to anyone with a Hopkins undergraduate degree.

According to Nick Jones, Benjamin T. Rome dean of the Whiting School of Engineering, the University's decision is a standardization of their aid policies for all graduate engineering programs.



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Students will have the opportunity to research in engineering labs.

"What we decided to do was to rationalize and standardize [tuition grants] across the school," he said.

Tuition for a full-time master's degree program for the 2009-2010 school year is \$39,150, so the grants will be offering almost \$20,000 per student. Jones said that the grants will be especially helpful for students for whom finances are tight.

"We felt that this was a good way to offer some additional sup-

port to Hopkins students who were interested in pursuing an advanced degree," he said.

Although the University's decision will ease the burden on students during the recession, the grants are not a temporary measure, according to Edward Scheinerman, vice dean for education and professor of Applied Mathematics & Statistics at the Whiting School.

Students who did not attend Hopkins for their undergraduate degree are also eligible for aid, but it is merit-based and awarded on a case-by-case basis, Jones said.

"What's special about this program is that we're saying that for anyone who's been a Hopkins undergraduate, we're offering the 50 percent tuition grant, no questions asked," he said.

An undergraduate major in engineering is not an eligibility requirement: the only criteria is earning admission to a graduate program in engineering and a bachelor's degree from Hopkins.

"Basically what we're saying is that if you graduated from Hopkins, you clear the merit bar — we know you, we know who you are and we know the sort of education you've had from Hopkins as an undergraduate, so you're automatically over the bar."

Jones noted the similarity between the master's grants and the Baltimore Scholars Program at the undergraduate level, a program that guarantees 100 percent of undergraduate tuition to students who are admitted to Hopkins from a Baltimore public high school.

While some students choose to pursue graduate school to wait out a tough job market, there are other advantages to pursuing an advanced degree, according to Jones.

"I would say that increasingly with the complexity of engineering jobs, master's degrees are well-sought after," he said.

"We think there is a large and a healthy demand out there for master's students, and I anticipate with time that demand will

continue to increase."

According to Scheinerman, plans to offer the grants have been ongoing.

"Several months ago we began the process of ensuring that these master's tuition fellowships would be available for all [Hopkins] concurrent bachelor's/master's students and for all [Hopkins] alumni returning for a master's degree," he wrote in an e-mail to the *News-Letter*.

In cases of five year combined programs, the tuition grant would only be given during the master's component of the program.

Scheinerman also noted that providing the grants would not only benefit students but also the University itself.

"First, we think extremely highly of our own students and would like to encourage them to stay for a fifth year to get a master's degree. The result of this will be even stronger graduates of Hopkins and that adds to our excellent reputation," he wrote.

"Second, we believe that this grant program will make Hopkins more attractive to prospective undergraduate students."

The engineering students spoken to for this article agreed that the program was an incentive for attending graduate school.

Ariella Cohain, a sophomore biomedical engineer major, felt that the grants would attract many Hopkins students to the University's graduate engineering programs.

"Why wouldn't it," she said. "It's half-off at a great engineering program at a great school. I don't see how you could not consider it."

Akshay Krishnaswamy, a freshman chemical and biomolecular engineering major, agreed.

"When I look at applying to grad programs I'll definitely apply here now," he said.

Ryan Harrison, a senior biomedical engineering major, has not considered attending Hopkins for graduate education and

plans on pursuing a doctoral degree at another institution.

"I've been at Hopkins since I was 15 years old doing research, so I've been there for about six or seven years at this point. So, it's about time for me personally to move on to another institution," he said.

However, Harrison still felt that the combined degree program could be very popular for students interested in earning a master's.

"If I were going to get a master's degree, the thing that would attract me the most is the combined program," he said. "I think the combination of that last year being half-price and the combined program where it's five years, for the BS and the master's, that's very attractive."

Hopkins students pursuing a doctoral degree will not be eligible for the grants program, even if they earn their master's while pursuing their doctorate.

However, there are other financial aid accommodations for these students. Doctoral engineering students receive an 80 percent tuition grant from the dean's office, and the other 20 percent is usually covered by a stipend or other sources of aid, Jones explained.

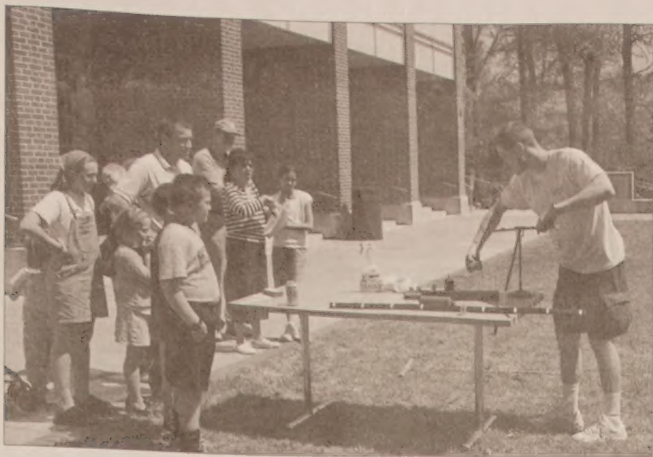
The grants also apply to the master's component of the Whiting School's combined BA/MS programs. Scheinerman hoped that the grants would increase student interest in these programs.

Students are not required to apply for the master's program immediately after graduating: They can do so at any time.

Jones also said that the program might provide an incentive for many students who went into the workforce after graduating with their bachelor's degree to return to Hopkins and complete a master's.

"It really represents a commitment to our undergraduates for life, basically," Jones said. "You can come do this when you're 60 if you want."

NEWS & FEATURES



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.PHA.JHU.EDU
Students from Baltimore schools observe science demonstrations at Physics Fair.

Physics Fair attracts students of all ages

By SARAH HERSH
Staff Writer

While most people were outside celebrating Spring Fair last Saturday, the physics department was busy hosting the sixth annual Physics Fair. The fair is aimed at "K through grey," according to Pam Carmen, who runs the Physics Fair.

The fair included many giveaways and activities. Some activities were the Science and Physics Challenge — both of which were done through multiple choice tests — the Professor Extraordinaire Show and the Science and Physics Bowls — which are team competitions in the likes of "It's Academic."

A high school teacher originally thought of the idea for the event during a workshop with high school students, after they were asked what Hopkins can do to get science out into the community. Professor Bruce Barnett, who was in attendance at this meeting, took the idea to the board.

The main goal of the event is to try to attract students from elementary school to high school, especially those interested in physics.

"We can hopefully get the students more interested and more knowledgeable," Barnett said.

Most of the people who attended the fair were Baltimore-area students. Many schools send teams, but over the years, kids have started to form their own teams without help from their schools.

The largest attraction, according to Carmen, has always been the Professor Extraordinaire Show. Physics professor Peter Armitage has hosted the event for the last three years. The event lasts 45 minutes and is centered around a different theme each year.

The Professor Extraordinaire Show involved many exciting different demonstrations, and this year's theme was vacuums and pressure. Each demonstration was aimed at children, and as it progressed, the vacuums became more and more advanced. The show had already been put on once before this year.

One experiment showed how different gases have different properties and involved lighting balloons of these gasses on fire. Some balloons had much louder explosions than others.

Other balloons filled with different gasses such as air, sulfur and helium were passed around the audience as well. Children were also able to go up onto the stage and be enclosed in a shrink-wrapped bag that air was vacuumed out of.

A lot of the demonstrations Armitage performed were visually impressive and entertaining, which was obviously part of the show's goal in presenting physics to a younger audience.

"Part of physics lectures and physics in general is not just writing equations on the board, it's also that we do demonstrations in front of the students to illustrate some of the important concepts," Armitage explained.

Additionally, the Physics Bowl and Science Bowl were other popular attractions in the fair. This competition had students in teams of four that competed simultaneously. Teams were expected to answer questions and put these answers into a CPS system, and the results were displayed in real time. Winners of the competition got individual certificates and a team trophy.

Of Armitage's presentation, Caryn Carson, a 14-year-old freshman at Baltimore Polytechnic Institute said, "I think that the presentation was really fun. It was aimed at a younger crowd, but I still enjoyed it."

Carson also participated in the Physics Bowl. She got involved because her physics teacher made an announcement that the competition would be happening, and she formed a team because it sounded like it would be fun.

Many undergraduate and graduate Hopkins students and professors were involved in the fair. Sophomore Mark Ziegler was involved in the fair for the second year in a row. He said that an e-mail went out to students in the physics major asking if they wanted to get involved in the fair, and that it was all voluntary.

"We don't get any credit, but there is a free shirt. So I guess that counts," he joked.

Each student is assigned to run a different experiment. However, professors usually run the more complicated booths.

In the future, "We want to get bigger and better and get more people. We really want to get more students involved," said Barnett.

By CONOR FOLEY
Staff Writer

Two research professors from the Center for Social Organization of Schools (CSOS) at Hopkins were among 44 scholars named American Educational Research Association (AERA) Fellows.

On April 10, James McPartland and Joyce Epstein were inducted into the second group of the AERA Fellows program, which was started last year. The first group of inductees was largely composed of previous officers or close associates of AERA, and was chosen without a nominating process. The 2009 Fellows were nominated and sponsored by members of the first class of fellows.

In its press release, AERA explained that through the fellows program, the Association aims to convey its commitment to excellence in research and to underscore to new scholars the importance of sustained research contributions in the field.

"The Fellows program is kind of a lifetime achievement award. It's meant to highlight general contributions from people who have been in the field for a long time," Epstein said.

McPartland and Epstein have been close colleagues at the CSOS. Both received their doctorates through the Hopkins Department of Sociology. McPartland participated in the preparation of the influential 1966 "Equality and Educational Opportunity" Report for Congress, in association with noted sociologist James Coleman who worked at Hopkins at the time.

Epstein has worked with CSOS since the mid-1970s.

McPartland is now the director of the CSOS and has led the center's Talent Development Program for middle schools and high schools. The Talent Development Program is a comprehensive school reform model that seeks to address a broad range of issues in underperforming schools, including student attendance, discipline, achievement scores and dropout rates.

"For a long time, [the CSOS] was engaged in research that compared various natural variations across schools to try and find what were the best strategies," McPartland said. "But we realized that there wasn't a whole lot of difference between many of these schools except for the student population."

The Talent Development program is distinguished from many other reform models by the close cooperation and support given by the CSOS to each school.

"About 10 years ago, we started the Talent Development program because we realized that we had to develop new methods and structures to help schools succeed."

McPartland explained that the program typically involves a one-year transition period, followed by a three-year implementation period. During this time, CSOS provides coaches to help train teachers in the curriculum and techniques that have been developed by the center's

researchers and former practitioners. The CSOS also organizes the school into academies, called "schools-in-a-school", to help create smaller communities where students can feel more engaged in their education.

"We have seen opportunities to expand our program, but we haven't grown as quickly as we could have," McPartland said.

"We wanted to make sure we were giving enough attention to each of the schools that we partnered with."

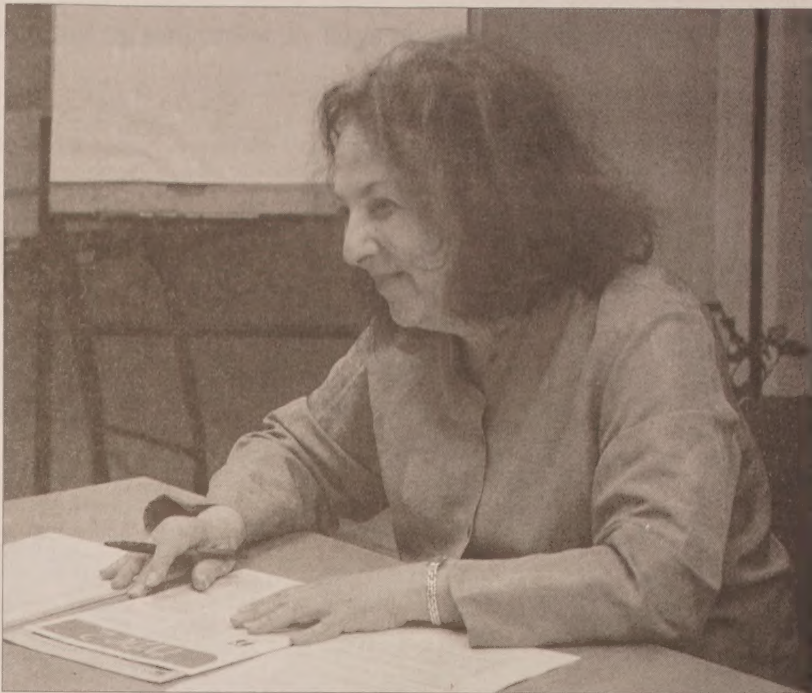
Joyce Epstein is the director of the Center on School, Family and Community Partnerships and the National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS).

The NNPS works with schools, districts and several state departments of education, to establish new structures to help change the dynamics of parent involvement in schools.

"For a long time, schools used parental involvement for their own sake, or to help with fundraising," Epstein said.

"We want to change the paradigm so that we are focusing on family and community involvement to benefit student success, and that we reach out not just to those who are easy to get involved, but to all families."

Epstein's program seeks to make the nature of parental



DANIEL LITWIN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Joyce Epstein is one of two University professors named American Education Research Association Fellows.

involvement a partnership in which schools, parents and the wider community share the responsibility for student success.

A partnership paradigm, as Epstein explains, forces schools to acknowledge the role they have to play in reaching out to families and bringing them into the process, rather than passively expecting some families to get involved.

Epstein also emphasized the need to change parental involvement from being about parents to being about student success.

One important part of this was to increase cooperation and dialogue between parents and teachers, so that parents' educational activities in the home would help to reinforce the skills and knowledge being developed in the classroom.

Both McPartland and Ep-

stein's work with the CSOS focuses on combining research and practice. The CSOS, under McPartland's leadership, has changed the composition of its staff to include more former teachers and education practitioners.

This has allowed the CSOS to do education design work, such as creating new types of homework, classroom tactics, or curriculum that teachers will be able to implement.

"After all of our research, we try to develop the best educational strategies we can, but we also closely cooperate with our schools, to hear what worked and what doesn't, and what new obstacles they see," Epstein said.

"This allows us to further refine our research questions in the future. We have research improving practice, and practice improving research."

Harborplace plans to restructure finances

Shopping center at the Inner Harbor files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy

HARBORPLACE, FROM A1 are expected to continue as usual, according to a GGP press release.

Cole supported the shopping center giant's claim, saying that the move to Chapter 11 was only about restructuring their finances and not about changing their operations.

On April 22, GGP announced that additional properties, including seven more in Maryland, would file for bankruptcy.

A GGP press release on the same day discussed the prospect of additional properties filing for bankruptcy in the future.

"We do not currently contemplate that additional GGP subsidiaries will file for protection, although it is possible that cir-

cumstances could change during the restructuring process," Adam Metz, chief executive officer of GGP wrote.

While the company will be selling some of its properties as part of the restructuring plan, it is unclear which properties will be sold. GGP representatives could not be reached for comment.

"I have not heard anything indicating that [GGP] is looking to sell [Harborplace]. I don't really know what their strategy

is, but I have been assured by many City officials that they are not looking to sell," Cole said.

GGP purchased Harborplace and many other properties in 2004, from the Maryland-based Rouse Company in a \$12.6 bil-

lion deal. According to Cole, the company has made changes and renovations to Harborplace that have allowed the aging tourist hotspot to feel new.

The retail stores in Harborplace have not been contacted or received any notices from GGP, but managers are not worried about the future of the waterfront mall.

"Business has been great," said GNC Live Well store manager Dave Atkins.

He said he is not worried about his store or the mall's prospects because Chapter 11 does not equate with liquidation. He doesn't expect Harborplace to disappear.

Entering the Inner Harbor's busiest season there is additional cause for optimism.

"This is not something that I think is going to affect Harborplace long-term. Give them an opportunity to restructure some of their debt and operate as the Harborplace we've known," Cole said.

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SECURITY ALERTS

On April 27 at 12:25 a.m., a non-affiliate waiting for an MTA bus was approached by two unknown men who asked for money. One of the men went through the person's pockets and stole a cell phone. The two men ran east on 27th St. Investigation is continuing.

On April 25 at 7:20 p.m., a graduate affiliate's bag, containing a laptop, Blackberry, keys and J-card was stolen after it was left unattended outdoors. Investigation is continuing.

On April 25 at 5:33 p.m., an intoxicated senior affiliate shoved his hand in the face of another senior, took her sunglasses and broke them. The suspect was apprehended by a Baltimore police officer and the victim declined to pursue criminal charges.

On April 25 at 1:17 a.m., there was an altercation between two non-affiliates in which a male was struck by a female. The male declined medical attention and refused to pursue criminal charges.

On April 20 at 10:30 p.m., a graduate affiliate was accosted by two males who grabbed him, demanded money and tried to steal his backpack. After speaking Russian to the assailants, they fled westbound on 31st St. Investigation is continuing.

On April 18, from 6:30 to 6:50 p.m., an undergraduate affiliate reported leaving his MP3 player unattended on a treadmill. When he returned, the MP3 player was missing. Investigation is continuing.

NEWS & FEATURES

For decades, Hopkins has coordinated Hubble Space Telescope research

Scientists and students around the world utilize data from the Space Telescope Science Institute's work, organized and run on the Hopkins Homewood campus since the early 1980's

By **LAURA MUTH**
News&Features Editor

Since the early 1980s, Hopkins has been home to the science operations of the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI), the institute in charge of the Hubble Space Telescope.

When NASA issued a proposal in search of a group to run the telescope, Hopkins applied with a not-for-profit group, the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA) and jointly won the right to do so. The center, located directly

across San Martin Drive from the Homewood Campus, has been in operation ever since.

Over the years, the center has advanced astronomical and astrophysical research for scientists around the world. The STScI at Homewood selects which programs are assigned to the telescope, schedules them and then collects data and releases news of their findings. In recent years, the number of science papers citing data from the Hubble and therefore STScI has increased from about 250 in 1995 to roughly 700 in 2006.

"All the pictures you ever see from the Hubble Space Telescope come out of this building," said Charles Mountain, professor of physics and astronomy and director of STScI.

He said that the institute had also drawn researchers to the University itself and generated growth in related departments, such as physics and astronomy. It currently employs 475 staff members in total. 219 of those are engaged in work on the Hubble.

These research scientists are ranked sixth in the

world, as measured by their publication productivity.

33 U.S. universities and seven international affiliates are involved in AURA. In this way, the STScI serves as the "interface between the broad astronomic community and NASA and the telescope," according to Mountain.

"The Hubble Telescope is the most productive telescope in history, and it's actually run out of Homewood," he said.

Mountain and a number of other researchers and scientists involved with the project were appointed jointly by STScI and Hopkins. Annually, STScI gives out \$22 million in grants to researchers who have been chosen to run projects through the telescope, and about 7,000 people use the telescope around the world. 17 new Hubble fellowships are granted annually.

STScI also hosts major conferences regarding new research and fields of exploration, including an upcoming event called "The Search for Life in the Universe," which Mountain considers to be the next major field of inquiry for the institute and astronomy.

Observations taken from the Hubble have led to a number of historic scientific breakthroughs, including determining the rate of expansion of the universe, studying the behavior and characteristics of dark matter and the detection and characterization of extrasolar planets, planets beyond the Earth's solar system.

However, the Hubble was launched in 1990, and it is now drawing close to the end of its mission, according to Kathryn Flanagan, head of the James Webb Space Telescope, the project that is



COURTESY OF THOMAS DANNER

The institute provides research opportunities for professionals in the field as well as undergraduate and graduate students.

to eventually replace the Hubble.

"The Hubble's last servicing mission is being launched in about two weeks," she said.

According to Flanagan, there will be some overlap between the time when the James Webb is launched and the Hubble is retired. Currently 94 scientists, researchers and engineers are working on its development.

Although it is considered the Hubble's replacement, the James Webb telescope is fundamentally different in several ways. The Hubble makes optical observations based on the light spectrum visible to the human eye. The

James Webb will make infrared observations. Additionally, the James Webb will be orbiting at 1.5 million kilometers, while the Hubble orbits at 570 kilometers.

Flanagan thinks that the Hubble has performed important scientific functions and will continue to do so for the rest of its operational time.

"It's an unbelievable resource for all of the astronomical community," she said. "And for students, it's also a major draw."

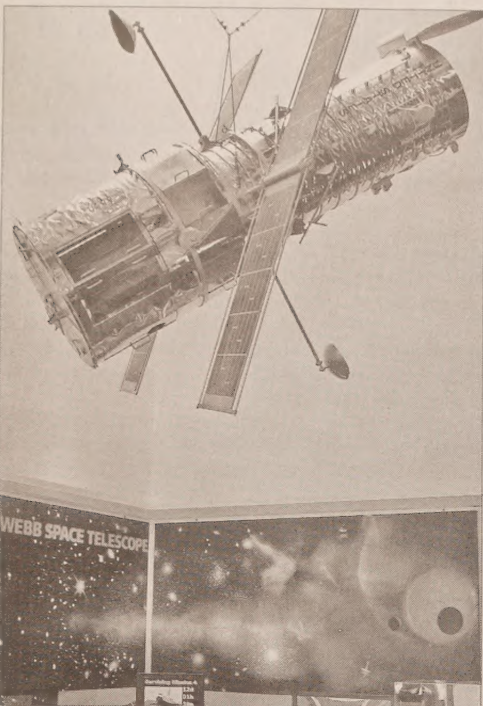
She cited the examples of graduate students using data from the Hubble for their theses and research opportunities available at

all graduate and undergraduate levels. STScI also runs a summer undergraduate program.

Flanagan also thinks that in the future, STScI could become a source of jobs for recent graduates and other members of the community.

"Pretty soon, possibly in 2011, we'll most likely be hiring," she said. "We'll be ramping up work on the James Webb, and the Hubble operations will continue to take a significant core staff for some time."

The James Webb is currently scheduled to be launched sometime in 2013.



COURTESY OF THOMAS DANNER

The Hubble Telescope will most likely be replaced in 2013.

CITY BRIEFS

Mortgage fraud affects Maryland homeowners

The government pressed criminal charges against four individuals involved in a \$70 million mortgage fraud on Monday.

The fraud affected more than 1,000 homeowners, most of them from Maryland.

The indictments were brought against the founder, chief financial officer, president and vice president of the fraudulent company, Metro Dream Homes.

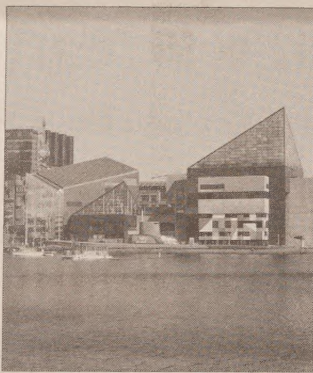
These individuals ran a Ponzi-style scheme from 2005 to 2007, in which potential home-buyers and long-time homeowners were persuaded by members of Metro Dream Homes to invest \$50,000 in the faux company.

In return, these buyers were promised that Metro Dream Homes would pay their mortgage for five to seven years.

Investigations showed that the mortgages were never paid and the money was used for tickets to major sporting events.

In a news conference Monday, assistant U.S. Attorney General Lanny A. Breuer blamed the current housing crisis on schemes like Metro Dream Homes' and said that he could not estimate how many of the millions of homeowners now facing financial debt were put in the position due to the mortgage fraud.

The charged individuals have less than two days to turn themselves in to authorities.



[HTTP://WWW.STORYCORPS.NET](http://www.storycorps.net)
Police are increasing Inner Harbor patrols.

Inner Harbor police bolster security

Baltimore police stepped up the number of patrols at the Inner Harbor after two teenagers were stabbed on Saturday and several businesses closed early.

Police Colonel John Skinner, the Chief of Patrol, said a combination of sunny weather on Saturday and discount prices at local stores attracted an unprecedented crowd for a pre-summer weekend.

Skinner said that at 9:30 p.m., a group of young males approached and stabbed a 16-year-old teenage boy talking to a girl. The victim walked several blocks before calling the police.

Meanwhile, the same group became involved in another fight and stabbed another teenager. Both victims were hospitalized, and the perpetrators were arrested.

Later in the day, more police officers came to patrol the Inner

Harbor and prevented customers from entering stores, prompting many of the remaining shops to close.

There will be a police meeting on Tuesday to determine how many police officers will be added for future patrols at the Harbor.

City campaign to collect \$132 million in overdue tickets

A recent campaign by a city-hired collections agency in Baltimore to collect \$132 million in overdue parking tickets has triggered claims that the practice is too extreme.

The agency, Linebarger, Gogan, Blair & Sampson, has collected \$11.6 million for Baltimore in fines since 2006. In the latest campaign, which started in February, the agency sent out 80,000 notices to people with long-unpaid tickets.

Scott Peterson, a Baltimore City Hall spokesman, said the agency had been instructed by the city to collect tickets from

people who had fees six months overdue.

Under a city agreement, Linebarger keeps 20 percent of the fees they collect. That means the agency is on its way to earn \$2.3 million of the \$11.6 million Baltimore expects to collect.

However, some individuals believe that the recent campaign is a plot by the city to raise revenue in the economic downturn. The unpaid parking tickets carry fines from \$21 to hundreds of dollars.

Jason Howard, a graduate student at Johns Hopkins who was charged a fine of \$603, launched a Facebook group to protest the fee collection.

Baltimore citizens are skeptical about the legitimacy of the tickets after a city parking enforcement inspector was imprisoned for writing hundreds of fraudulent tickets.

A legislature bill is in the works at City Hall to address these concerns.

In the meantime, if individuals feel they do not owe the fines, they can request a District Court hearing.

U.S. sues City for discriminatory zoning laws

The United States Justice Department filed a civil rights lawsuit against Baltimore, charging that the city's zoning laws discriminate against those seeking drug treatments.

The suit was filed in U.S. District Court by three organizations who claimed that they "suffered" from the burdensome zoning laws. The organizations sought an unclassified amount of money and a new law that would invalidate the zoning restrictions.

Baltimore mayor Shelia Dixon expressed disappointment at the development.

Dixon has tried to redress the zoning laws. Last year, she introduced legislation to allow residential treatment facilities housing eight drug addicts or fewer in any neighborhood.

The new suit shows that the federal government will not seek a consensus on the zoning laws with Baltimore city.

Pastor arrested and charged with murder

A Baltimore pastor was arrested and charged Friday for the slaying of a mentally disabled person after he confessed to the crime.

Police said that the pastor, Kevin Jerome Pushia, befriended Lemuel Wallace and hired a hit man to kill Wallace to collect Wallace's insurance money.

Witnesses said that Wallace was picked up from the pastor's church on February 4 and was found dead the next day.

Police investigations into the matter shows that Wallace listed Pushia as a brother in a \$200,000 life insurance policy and that Pushia wrote "L.W. Project Completed" on his calendar on the day the victim was found.

Police are now looking for other possible victims and investigating whether Pushia has been involved in previous murders.



[HTTP://WWW.FORESTCITYSCIENCY.NET](http://www.forestcityscincy.net)
EBDI has found new leadership.

EBDI finds interim president to replace Shannon

Today, Jack Shannon, the current president and CEO of the East Baltimore Development Inc. (EBDI), will be stepping down.

His replacement has not been announced yet.

Christopher Shea, the current Vice President for Policy and Planning, will serve as the interim president. In a press release, the Chairman of the Board

of EBDI, Joseph Haskins Jr. said that the appointment of Mr. Shea will "insure continuity and stability for the organization as the pace of progress and planning accelerates."

EBDI intends to continue its current plans of constructing more housing developments. Additionally, it plans to launch a new school, East Baltimore Community School.

Mr. Shea joined EBDI in January 2007 and has previously been the city's Deputy Housing Commissioner for Development.

In the meantime, EBDI will continue its search for a permanent president. They are unsure of when one will be selected.



[HTTP://WWW.ABC2.COM](http://www.abc2.com)
Curfews take priority at Baltimore education center.

Baltimore establishes youth curfew center

This spring and summer, the school inside Baltimore's education headquarters will serve as a center for youth under 17 picked up by police in violation of curfew.

Starting this week through late August, youth who are out between midnight and 4 a.m. on the weekends and from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m. on week nights will be taken to the curfew center, located at Success Academy on 200 E. North Avenue.

Once there, workers at the center assess the student's criminal record and contact the individual's parents.

Last year there was a similar curfew center located at Dallas F. Nicholas Sr. Elementary school. Approximately 50 children were brought in each night.

—By Wallace Feng

CORRECTIONS

In the April 23 issue, the article "Your guide to surviving Spring Fair" on Page B6 neglected to credit Sarah Addison for compiling people's favorite Spring Fair foods.

In the same issue, the caption on Page 22 of the Green Guide in the article "Endangered Species Act subject of heated debate" incorrectly stated that the Bald Eagle is still on the endangered species list. The Bald Eagle was delisted in 2007.

The News-Letter regrets these errors.

Alpha Epsilon Pi's Dump for Dollars



**This Friday, May 1
3 PM - Freshman Quad
Tickets \$5**

**email aaronnoparstak@gmail.com
for information & to purchase tickets**

Benefits the Maryland Food Bank & Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem

NEWS & FEATURES

Guggenheim Fellow shares his research interests

Near Eastern Studies professor takes advantage of his Guggenheim fellowship to pursue Biblical research

By TARA BRAILEY
Staff Writer

Theodore Lewis is a 2009 recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship and is the first Blum-Iwry Professor of Near Eastern Studies. The *News-Letter* met with Lewis to discuss his interest in the religions of ancient Syria and Israel and the research he plans to pursue under his fellowship.

News-Letter (N-L): What led you to Hopkins?

Theodore Lewis (TL): Hopkins is one of Baltimore's best-kept secrets. It is one of the best universities in the world for Near Eastern Studies. I went to the graduate program at Harvard and 100 percent of the professors there received degrees from Hopkins. Near Eastern and biblical studies are a mecca here. In these areas, coming to Hopkins is the best you could ever do with your career.

N-L: What first sparked your interest in Near Eastern Studies?

TL: I was a computer science major at a big state university, the University of Wisconsin-Madison. There was a foreign language requirement I needed to fulfill and Hebrew counted for credit. I knew very little about the Bible but I ended up falling in love with Hebrew.

N-L: What attracted you to your current specialization in the Near Eastern Studies Department?

TL: I am a historian of religion. Religion is one of the keys to unlocking any culture, ancient or modern.

I was trained as a philologist. In order to unlock the history of a culture's religion you need the skills of language and archaeology. You also need to put the religion in its environment, which is the ancient Near East. Texts, material culture and archaeology are encompassed in the broader context of the an-



COURTESY OF THEODORE LEWIS
Theodore Lewis, professor of Near Eastern studies, is using his Guggenheim Fellowship to pursue his research in religion.

cient Near East.

Before I came to Hopkins I taught for 15 years at the University of Georgia in the Department of Religion, but I lacked colleagues who also specialized in the Near East. That is what I have here. Hopkins is a marvelous place to be.

N-L: Why did you apply for the Guggenheim award and how will this grant help you accomplish your research goals?

TL: The Fellowship allows you to have a full year dedicated to study on a specific topic. Most sabbaticals only grant a half-year leave.

I am currently writing a volume for the Yale Anchor Bible

Reference Library series. The volume is on ancient Israelite religion and its two areas of focus are ancient Israel and Syria. I am really just using the time to write. From July to June I will have a full year of writing. I hope to get the volume done next year.

I do have a trip to Israel planned with the Alumni Association. While I'm there I will probably find some time to sneak into a few libraries.

N-L: What do you find most interesting about your research?

TL: I find it incredibly fascinating that this small Iron Age civilization, ancient Israel, produced work that has stood the test of time for thousands of years. If

anything, Israel was a marginalized country.

Here is a small marginalized state, yet it produced this literature that is a primary confessional literature for Jews and Christians. There are themes that also carry over to Islam.

It is literature that has incredible staying power. It has aspects of family religion, royal religion, priestly religion, philosophy and wisdom literature.

N-L: Will you be working alone or with others on this project?

TL: I will be working alone, but hopefully my good colleagues will be able to read my work and help me by critiquing it.

N-L: What courses have you taught and what are you currently teaching?

TL: I love to teach and I am very passionate about teaching. Right now I am teaching a course called Incantations, Prayer, Power and Despair: Religion in Bible and its World. In this class we look at all different aspects of religion and worlds or biblical religion that often conflict. It looks at religion's role for both the elite of a society and the average person.

I teach everything from biblical studies to ancient religion. I teach for the graduate program in any of the Semitic languages. I love teaching everything.

The undergraduate course I am teaching now, that is what I work on and what I write on. I am in a perfect environment. I love teaching and I get to teach on what I research.

N-L: What do interests you about Hopkins?

TL: We have an amazing humanities department here at Hopkins. It really is this best-kept secret. We do not get enough humanities students applying and taking courses. Just look at the amount of Guggenheim fellows we have here that rival those of other universities.

I once participated in one of the faculty panels for accepted students in Shriver. All of the questions were directed toward pre-med, science, and engineering disciplines. I asked if anyone knew that two of the world's first-rate Egyptologists are right here at Hopkins. There are such wonderful treasures here. The question is just a matter of how do you get the word out.

N-L: What is something else that is interesting about your job here at Hopkins?

TL: The title of my professorship is the Blum-Iwry Professorship. There was a longtime professor of Hebrew at Hopkins named Samuel Iwry who survived the Nazi persecution. One of his best friends, businessman Alvin Blum, endowed this professorship in honor of his friend Iwry. I think it's great that I hold a professorship endowed on friendship.

Homewood adopts safeguards against flu

SWINE FLU, FROM A1

for how we can protect our patients and protect our students." Concern about swine flu stems from the fact that it is a Type A strain of influenza, the same type that caused the 1918 pandemic (Spanish flu), the 1957 Asian flu and the 1968 Hong Kong flu. Type A is generally only seen in animals, while Type B and C are usually seen in humans.

At the Homewood campus, many student services are taking preventative measures in the hopes of avoiding problems.

"Obviously we are all now maintaining an elevated level of suspicion," Alain Joffe, director of the Health and Wellness Center, said.

"If someone shows flu-like symptoms, we are screening them to find out if they have traveled to or come from a hotspot. We try to identify any epidemiological links."

According to Joffe, the Health and Wellness center has started using rapid flu tests on anyone with questionable symptoms.

When testing for flu in the past, the Center took throat swabs and sent them to a state lab for analysis, but results could take days to return. The rapid tests enable the Center to quickly identify whether a patient has a Type A strain of flu, but the tests cannot diagnose swine flu.

The Health and Wellness Center has also started distributing face masks to any patient who comes in with possible flu symptoms.

This measure is also being taken by CEPAR which is distributing specially-fitted masks to employees at the hospital and other parts of the University that might be at risk.

In addition to CEPAR's precautionary actions, the Housing and Dining Office is also implementing strategies that would reduce community exposure if a case of swine flu does emerge. The Office is assessing spaces that are available right now and could be used for emergency isolation if need be.

"We've been asked to look at our facilities and how we could create a space where patients could be by themselves to minimize their impact on the students around them," Carol Mohr, Housing and Dining's senior director, said.

Housing and Dining has ordered hand sanitizer dispensers to place at the entrances of the

major dining rooms on campus. The department also plans to distribute personal-sized hand sanitizers to as many students as possible.

"We recognize that there's a lot of opportunity, where people are living closely, to pass things on. I think that getting the word out to people about precautions that they can take is the most important thing."

To this end, Housing and Dining and the Health and Wellness Center are collaborating on flyers, posters and other educational materials to promote awareness of prevention tactics. These include standard methods for limiting the spread of germs such as covering a cough or sneeze.

Dining Services is also taking steps to insure safety by carefully reviewing food sources as well as food preparation and hygiene standards in all of the campus dining facilities.

"In this heightened time of concern, practices and standards have been again reviewed with staff," David Furhman, the di-

rector of dining programs for the Homewood campus, wrote in an e-mail.

"Our dining facilities and service practices are under regular scrutiny from a number of oversight entities including the City of Baltimore . . . and the Hopkins Department of Health, Safety and Environmental Services."

Late yesterday, CEPAR sent the second in a series of broadcast e-mails to the University. While the first e-mail focused on "growing concerns" and asked that members of the community to "actively monitor their own health," the most recent e-mail stated that "the situation is constantly changing" and asked that University students and employees report to their supervisors or the Health and Wellness center should they experience any relevant symptoms.

Though the overall situation remains in flux, many members of the community are confident that Hopkins is adequately prepared to deal with whatever may occur in the coming weeks and months.

"Now we're able to take a look at [our] plans and implement them, changing them a little bit based on what's actually playing out. Our plans are actually really good and as things move forward we just make minor changes and adjustments . . ." Scheulen said. "We're making sure that every part of the Johns Hopkins world is included in these plans."

Spring Fair strives to engage community



DANIEL LITWIN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Despite concerns of shrinking, number of vendors at Spring Fair has remained steady over past few years.

a lot harder to get vendors to come."

In an email to the *News-Letter*, Jon Bernhardt, Spring Fair co-chair, wrote that this year's fair had the same number of food vendors as last year and well exceeded the number of arts and crafts vendors from last year.

Bernhardt also wrote that due to this year's warm weather, he assumed that the number of attendees was higher than last year, although there are

no specific numbers.

This year, the fair made an effort to avoid disturbance in the community, according to Salem Reiner, Community Relations Coordinator for the University.

Reiner received only one call about noise during the fair this year. Last year, he received noise complaints about the concert that started late in the evening.

"[The concert] was exceptionally loud, and included heavy profanity," Reiner said of last year's concert. "That's not something people like hearing blocks away from campus."

In an effort to reduce disturbance, this year the fireworks at the Spring Fair kick-off event went off earlier, and the concert on Saturday night was scheduled to end earlier than last year."

The vast majority of the community enjoys Spring Fair as an opportunity to be on the campus," Reiner said.

"The Homewood campus doors are opened to everyone. It's the students saying 'Hey community, this is something for you.'"

Reiner also worked to involve the non-profit community around Hopkins in the fair by reserving spots for community tables.

"There are more buy-and-sell vendors, and less hand-made goods," Roncalla said. "You need to keep a good balance. Too many buy-and-sell vendors can destroy a fair."

Hopkins alumnus Mark Degasparre, graduated from the University in 1989 and has only missed two Spring Fairs since then. "They've done a good job," Degasparre said. "But there seem to be less people here every year I come."

Rhyner, who has served as an advisor for Spring Fair since 1991, explained that prior to 2000, the fair was indeed more spread out on campus. In 2001, the University began beautification of the campus by putting in brick and new sprinklers.

As a result, trucks and cars were no longer allowed to drive onto the upper and lower quads, which restricted the areas in which the fair could take place.

According to Rhyner, before 2000, there were between 85 and 100 vendors each year. Since then, there have been between 60 and 70 vendors. "We can't do the fair all over campus like we used to," Rhyner said.

"We've changed both the look of the fair and the location of the fair in recent years. We've had to work

SPRING FAIR, FROM A1
zation and nonprofit groups from the community had booths throughout the weekend.

The fair included local vendors as well as vendors from as far as Florida.

Alicia Fisher, a henna artist from Virginia, was happy with the positive response she received at Hopkins.

"We're selling to a very intelligent crowd," Fisher said. "We do an art form that is a thousand years old. It's not just a tattoo, and people here get that."

While this was Fisher's first year as a vendor at Spring Fair, several other vendors have been involved with the fair for more than a decade.

Fredy Roncalla, a jewelry-maker from New York, has been selling his "type-writer" jewelry at Spring Fair for the past 15 years.

According to Roncalla, there seem to be fewer vendors at the fair since the first fair he attended. "The first time I came, the whole upper and lower quads were filled with vendors," Roncalla said.

Roncalla also mentioned that there are not as many arts and crafts vendors as there used to be.

What did the epidemiologist say when someone exclaimed, "When pigs fly!"?

The Swine Flu!

Don't let careless hygiene habits make you a victim of Swine Flu.

Risk reduction tips

- Wash your hands regularly.
- Cover all coughs and sneezes.
- If you notice any flu-like symptoms, do not attend class or work, seek medical attention promptly.

A message from the Student Health and Wellness Center and the Center for Health Education and Wellness

COURTESY OF CHEW
The Health and Wellness Center has been posting informational flyers around campus.

Policies, payments add to primary care shortage

PRIMARY CARE, FROM A1
does not correspond with a shortage of doctors.

Jonathan Weiner, professor of Health Policy and Management at the Bloomberg School of Public Health, explained that Maryland is among the states with the highest number of doctors.

"We have enough doctors," Weiner said. "The problem is that they are not in the right place doing the right thing. There are many doctors involved in government and academia, and too few [involved] in primary care."

Hearing attendees included three representatives from the state, including the Secretary of Health, and about 85 physicians, health center representatives and students.

"The idea of the hearing was to get enough information on the public record," Monti said. "The information can then be used by legislators to make policies to address the shortage."

The main issues discussed at the hearing were the reasons for the gap in primary care access in Baltimore, the consequences of this gap and specific programs and policies that could be enacted to close it.

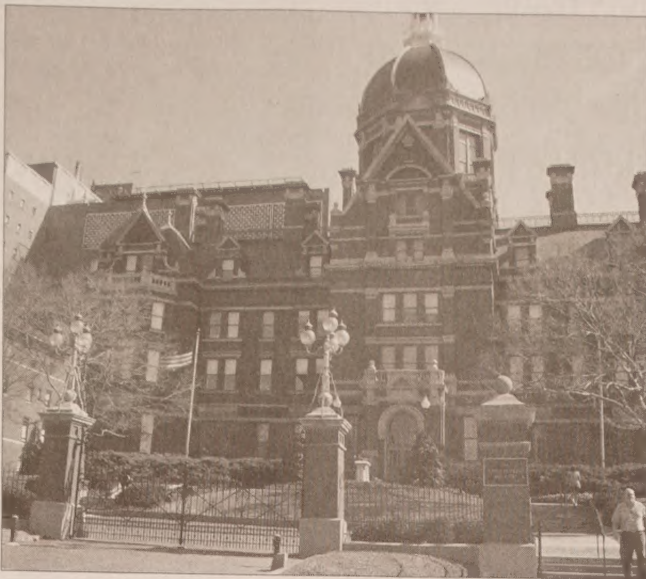
Monti explained that the shortage of primary care is a result of the decision by most doctors in Baltimore to specialize.

"Doctors in Baltimore are not paid enough," Monti said. "Specialists make more money than general physicians, so [doctors] feel the need to specialize."

According to Joseph Zebley, a family physician in Baltimore, the majority of all medical services have a fixed price for patients, but insurance companies can decide how much they will reimburse doctors for these services.

Zebley also noted that levels of physician pay in Maryland are low, and that Baltimore is the lowest payment jurisdiction for insurance companies in the nation.

The market for insurance in



COURTESY OF HTTP://LH4.GGPHT.COM
More doctors at Hopkins Hospital tend towards specialties rather than primary care.

Maryland is dominated by two companies: United Health Care and the Blue Cross Blue Shield companies. According to Zebley, these two companies own so much of the market that no other insurance companies have been able to gain a foothold in Maryland. They have been able to lower the reimbursement payments to doctors with no competition.

As a result, most doctors in Baltimore choose to specialize in order to earn more pay. In addition, many doctors who train in Baltimore move to other areas to practice, where they will receive better payment.

Zebley also explained that teaching institutions limit the number of doctors they train in general medicine because it not as financially viable as training specialists. Residency slots at medical schools like Hopkins are funded by the federal government and Medicare, and institutions make more money by offering residency positions for specialized medicine than they do for general practice.

According to Zebley, Hopkins does not have a department of family medicine. Although the University of Maryland School of Medicine does have a residency program in family care, Zebley explained that it only graduates about 12 people per year.

"There are not an adequate number of family physicians trained to supply for the generation of physicians who are retiring," Zebley said. "Most practicing physicians are part of the baby boomer age group, and they are going to retire soon."

The low retention rate of doctors, the lack of emphasis on training primary care physicians at teaching institutions and the low payment by insurance companies in Maryland have all contributed to the lacking primary care system in Baltimore, according to Zebley.

Monti explained that the shortage of primary care physicians in Baltimore has costly consequences.

"When a person can't see a doctor, what might have been a

mild case of bronchitis becomes pneumonia," Monti said. "Patients get more severe and then end up in the hospital which is much more expensive than outpatient treatment."

According to Monti, one thing that the state is considering is shifting funds to doctors who choose to stay in primary care.

"Currently the state offers about half a million dollars of loan forgiveness to doctors to pay off medical school loans," Monti said. "But that amount of money is only enough to help about eight doctors. The state needs to invest more money to keep doctors in primary care."

Other policy changes discussed at the hearing included changes in reimbursement formulas by insurance companies and the need for electronic medical records (EMRs).

Weiner explained that the implementation of EMRs would strengthen communication between doctors and coordinate care better.

"The advantage of a primary care doctor is that he or she serves as a gatekeeper," Weiner said. "They serve as the coordinator among all of a patient's doctors. But without a primary care physician, such communication is lacking."

According to Weiner, only about five percent of doctors currently use EMRs frequently.

"One day, we will be interoperable, meaning that your doctor can look at the records from all your other doctors," Weiner said.

Although EMR implementation would not solve the primary health care shortage, it would improve the function of the health system without general physicians.

Monti explained that the record from the hearing will remain open to contributions from the public into May. The information will then be taken to the legislature to help them formulate policies regarding the primary care shortage by early summer.

Scheduling of election had few disadvantages

SGA ELECTIONS, FROM A1
that of the Class of 2012. Ben McGuigan kept up the successful incumbent pattern, emerging as the victor in a close race.

In the senatorial elections, the competitiveness of each race diminished inversely to class standing; The rising senior class had seven candidates, the class of 2010 race had eight candidates and the ballot for rising sophomores had fourteen contenders. The class of 2010 elected AJ Blood, Abby Duggan, Dea Lovy, Jake Meth, Tim Miller and Viann Nguyen to represent them in next year's SGA. The class of 2011 senators will be Daniel De Leon, Arjun Kapur, Alexander Lachman, Saharsh Patel, Daniel Teran and Justin Waite. The highly competitive freshman race resulted with the following students as senators: Mark Dirzulaitis, Paul Han, Ardi Mendoza, Karen Poreh, PK Smith and Stephanie Suser.

According to CSE (Committee on Student Elections) Chair

Alieu Kanu, the election "did not run as well as we would have wanted to, but it was pretty decent." Kanu cites the timing of the election during Spring Fair weekend as a possible cause of low voter turnout. If the timing is similar next year, he suggests that a voting booth equipped with computers and Internet access be set up at Spring Fair, in order to get more students to vote. Nevertheless, the election seemed to have run smoothly in comparison to this year's SGA executive elections.

"There were no disqualifications, no issues and one minor error happened for the class of 2011, but it was fixed," Kanu said.

Kanu refers to sophomore Teran being accidentally left off of the ballot for the class of 2011 senatorial race from 7 a.m. to about noon on the day voting started. However, Teran's win made this a minor issue. Voting ran from Friday at 7 a.m. to Sunday at 11:59 p.m.



FILE PHOTO
Class presidents and senators for next year's SGA were elected this week.

Baltimore, Hopkins hope to increase cycling

BIKES, FROM A1
the Velocipede Bike Project of Baltimore attended the event and offered a "build your own bike" program, as well as general information about street biking safety and preparing for a biking trip.

In addition, the Bike Blast had a truck filled with bicycles set up at the event, so that people who had not brought their own bikes could borrow a bike for the day for free and join in on the fun.

At Hopkins, Sustainability Initiative has also been running a series of biking workshops to increase awareness about biking on the Homewood campus. The program has run workshops on bike repair and bike commuting. In addition, the program has also been looking to increase biking safety on campus.

Davis Bookhart, manager of energy management and environmental stewardship, said that they have surveyed all the campus storm grates to make sure that they are safe for bikers, and that they have also tried to set up more bike racks in more convenient places for students.

Bookhart also mentioned the addition of Baltimore's first bike "parking lot" on Charles Street in front of Eddie's Market. The city removed one parking space that used to be for a car, and replaced it with a bike rack. Bookhart felt that in addition to this being a practical move for the city, it was also symbolic.

"It's very symbolic: It shows that bikes are part of the road too, and that they shouldn't have to be locked up way on the sidewalk. They deserve to be parked on the street, just like a car would," he said.

According to Bookhart, more graduate students bike around Homewood than undergraduates, due to their proximity to the Homewood campus. However, he said the promotion of biking on campus is something

that is important to Baltimore, and the program is considering creating a free rent-a-bike program for Hopkins students in the future.

Bike Blast volunteer David Shapiro said that he thought that promoting biking in Baltimore was a very important step in making Baltimore a more environmentally friendly place.



COURTESY OF SARAH TAN
New bike trails have been built in Druid Hill Park to promote sustainability.

"It's better for the environment, and it's also just a much more pleasant way to get somewhere besides a car," he said.

Beginning in June of this year, Baltimore will be putting in a free bike rental program that will set up in Druid Hill Park every Wednesday at 6 p.m. to further promote biking. People will be able to take out a bike for free and ride it around the reservoir.

About 350 people attended the Baltimore Bike Blast throughout the day, and Rosita Rennick, one of the public relations officials for the Department of Transportation, felt that it was a fairly successful first-time event.

Nate Evans, the bike pedestrian planner for Baltimore, agreed that it was fairly successful, but that the event might have suffered slightly because of its lack of publicity.

"Hopefully we can get some more advocate groups out to support the event for next year. Since we were limited in our budget

this year, we weren't really able to make the outreach that we could have," he said.

Rennick felt that the promotion of biking was important in promoting sustainability in Baltimore.

"Not only will it help prevent traffic congestion and pollution, but it will also make the population healthier," she said.

Rennick also said that the city had been making large efforts to spread bicycle awareness through its many events. She mentioned the many people who attended the events initially said that they hadn't ridden a bike in many years, only to find that it was very easy to begin to ride again.

"People had mentioned to us, 'I thought I was too old to ride, but now I feel

confident I can do this.' Changing the mindset of the citizens was a really daunting task, but now that the city is doing things, people are changing their minds and we're seeing a lot of people saying, 'Hey I can do this,'" Rennick said.

Chief Spokesperson of Public Relations for the Department of Transportation, Adrienne Barnes, hopes that in the future, biking will become more widespread.

"I'd like to see families becoming more engaged in outdoor activities, and we really want people to get out of their cars," Barnes said.

Baltimore will be hosting its next biking event, Tour Dem Parks, on June 14. The event will be a tour through a few of Baltimore's parks that have newly established biking trails.

"I hope that in the future, people will take advantage of all the wonderful scenery around Baltimore through biking on our bike trails," Barnes said.

Thank you to everyone who has helped the *News-Letter* this year, especially:

Philomen Allen, Brenda Armour, Carrie Bennett, Davis Bookhart, William Brody, Susan Boswell, Paula Burger, Prasanna Chandrasekhar, Ronald Daniels, Donald Gresham, Mamie Howard, Will Kirk, Anne Pliska, Jerome Schnydmann, Dennis O'Shea, Dorothy Sheppard, William Smedick, Nathan Sooy, Michael Sullivan, Rob Turning, the custodial staff and all Hopkins coaches and student athletes.

NEWS & FEATURES

College briefs

Mysterious donor gives millions to colleges led by women

Many are wondering who is anonymously giving millions of dollars to over a dozen colleges, all of which have female leaders.

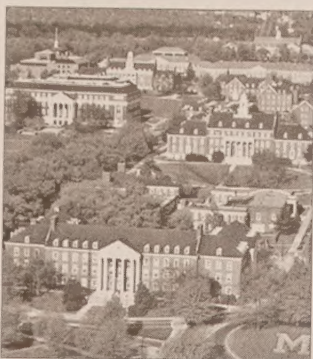
Some speculate that the donor is a woman who grew up in a time of fewer educational opportunities for women or a group of powerful women who want to ensure success for female university leaders.

The gifts have thus far totaled up to \$68.5 million and have been delivered over the past seven weeks in a completely anonymous fashion. Some of the college recipients include Purdue, Montclair, Michigan State University and University of Southern Mississippi. All were given only one condition: not to try to investigate the donor's identity. The donations were in the form of cashier's checks, or checks from law firms and other intermediaries. In most cases, the donor specified the money should be used for financial aid.

The most plausible hypothesis seems to be that the money is coming from a group of donors pooling their money to invest, but donating individually—a "giving circle."

sence from a chemistry exam. The last official record of her on campus was Sunday morning, when she swiped her ID card to have breakfast with her roommates in the cafeteria. Her friends knew Parente was staying with her family that weekend.

Baltimore County officers would not say whether or not a suicide note or any other evidence supporting a motive was found in the hotel room.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.FIGHTLIAM.COM
U-Md. is one school affected by the freeze.

Board of Regents approves freeze for tuition at Md. state schools

Last Thursday, the Board of Regents voted unanimously to freeze in-state undergraduate tuition for the fourth straight year. The Board of Regents would have raised tuition by 4 percent, but Governor Martin O'Malley provided the state system with an extra \$16 million.

The freeze is somewhat unusual due to the recession. Some states have been severely affected: Tuition is rising by 25 percent in Georgia, 14 percent in New York and 10 percent in California.

However, O'Malley made freezing tuition a priority due to his re-election bid coming up next year.

Tuition will go up for out-of-state undergraduates, graduate and professional students, and undergraduate fees could go up.

Four years ago, the state had the sixth-highest public university tuition. By next year, that ranking is expected to fall to 18th in the nation.

Cell phones can call campus security for help

American University is taking new steps in campus safety. Students can use their cell phones to call campus security instead of looking for the closest blue-light emergency phone.

By pressing a certain key on the phone, a student at American University can activate loud alarms in the public safety office and display his or her location on the campus on security monitors along with a pho-

tograph of the owner of the phone and his or her physical description.

Students decide how much identifying information to give officials when they sign up for the AU Campus Connect Service. All of that private information is kept on servers off the campus.

American University currently also has a "guardian" system in place. Students who have signed up for the service can call for a virtual police escort late at night. They call in and set a timer and if the student does not call back to deactivate the service at the end of the time limit, campus police are notified and given the student's location. Students can also leave a voice message detailing their route, to help police track them down should trouble arise.

U-Md. may protect alcohol good samaritans

A good Samaritan proposal, pushed by students for the past two years, was voted on by the university senate last week. The proposal could lessen the penalties for violating university alcohol rules if a student is caught because he called authorities out of concern for someone's safety.

Schools across the country are addressing the same issue as they try to avoid sending a message of permissiveness about illegal underage alcohol use without scaring students into inaction when a situation becomes dangerous.

About 100 colleges, including George Washington University and the University of Virginia, have good Samaritan rules that provide amnesty to students who seek help in a medical emergency.

The proposal would not protect students who break the law, but disciplinary charges would be dismissed if the student met with administrators and completed an alcohol intervention program, if necessary.

Students began advocating a new policy in 2007, but the issue died in committee at the university senate. Many senators said a new policy would create a more permissive environment for drinking.

In a compromise reached earlier this spring, the senate will review a proposal that would not officially rewrite the student code of conduct, but would guide the way the current policy is implemented. After a year, the senate will decide whether to rewrite the policy.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.WEILONGWANG.NET
Many colleges have Good Samaritan laws.

NH fraternity brothers arrested for violent hazing practices

Two New England College students have been arrested for branding fraternity initiates with a hot WWII-era bayonet. The two students were each charged with four misdemeanor counts of hazing for using the hot bayonet to brand at least seven Sigma Alpha Beta initiates last fall. The seven who were branded were charged in March over a separate ceremony. Police started investigating after pledges went to the school health center with severe burns on their chests. One pledge had burns on his buttocks.



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.ETCHSTAR.COM
UCLA SGA is discussing the new course.

UCLA considers new mandatory diversity course

The student government at the University of California, Los Angeles, is considering a proposal that would require all students to take a course on Contemporary Diversity and Identity Analysis.

The proposal is currently under review and will take a few months to go through the approval process.

A similar proposal has been a topic of discussion at UCLA for about 20 years. UCLA is currently the only University of California that does not have a diversity requirement.

The UCLA student government is working alongside the Academic Affairs Committee and Dean Judi Smith, the provost for undergraduate education, to coordinate the logistics of the proposal.

Students set human spoon train record

Last Thursday afternoon, 145 students gathered outside on the quad at Notre Dame University in an attempt to break the world record for the world's longest human spoon train.

The participants broke the previous record of 93 last year with a train of 127 spooners.

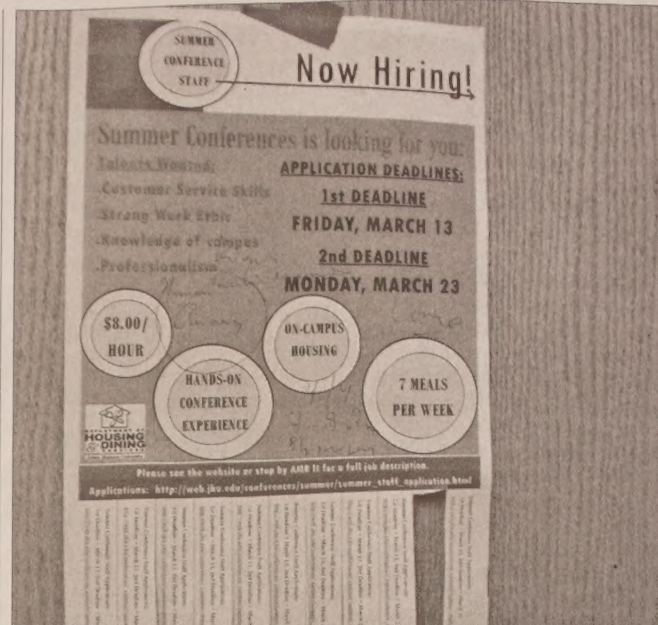
However, the initial attempt did not make the *Guinness Book of World Records*, since the organizers did not submit the appropriate paperwork.

Students began planning for their new record attempt in January and enlisted the help of two faculty members to serve as witnesses.

The event was also used to raise awareness for a local charity founded by a Notre Dame sophomore that raises funds for juvenile diabetes, HIV/AIDS and other similar illnesses.



COURTESY OF RIVAMOTORSFSPORTS.COM
The spooners are in the Guinness Book.



EILEEN HUANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Students in search of summer employment may have to stay open to alternatives.

Paid internships may be limited this summer

Some students might be disappointed with job search results

SUMMER JOBS, FROM A1
"Nothing was really appropriate for a summer job," Lelin said.

"Last year I went through the same process and I noticed that compared to last year there was a lot less available."

Dr. Mark J. Presnell, the director of Hopkins's Career Center, says that there may be a valid reason for the limited internship opportunities this summer.

"Companies and firms are posting internships later this year," Presnell said. "We've had conversations with companies setting May 15 as the deadline for internship applications, which is considerably later than usual."

Presnell agreed that the current economic situation may be making things more difficult

volunteer opportunities in his town.

"Since I didn't see anything I could do [through online searches], I am starting to think about volunteering somewhere, like at a museum or through some sort of healthcare related field," Lelin said.

Some students were able to go back to jobs they had worked at during previous summers. For example, Sean Murphy, an environmental engineering major, said that he will be returning to the same job he had last summer.

But trends are showing that today's internships, both paid and unpaid, are becoming more competitive and scarce in light of falling economy.

"It has been much more difficult for companies to fund programs this year," Presnell said.

"Students at Hopkins tend to work for competitive internships and jobs, but it may be harder to do so this year."

—MARK PRESNELL,
DIRECTOR OF THE
CAREER CENTER

"Students at Hopkins tend to work for competitive internships and jobs, but it may be harder to do so this year."

Even students employed during the school semester have experienced problems with the

job market. Sophomore Cristina Millett, who worked as an office assistant in human resources at Wyman Park, lost her job in November.

"My boss said they were cutting student jobs, obviously because of the state of the economy," Millett said.

"They said they just couldn't afford to pay me anymore. I lost mine right after [former President Brody] sent an e-mail out about the decreasing endowment and financial aid difficulties."

The University encouraged students not to be discouraged, despite the state of the economy.

According to Paula Burger, dean of undergraduate education, while the job search may be slower, it can still prove productive.

"The gist of the situation is that, overall, students are finding jobs, just somewhat more slowly than in previous summers since many employers seem to have waited to post positions," she wrote in an e-mail to the *News-Letter*.

Presnell agreed, saying that students may hear back from internships later than usual this summer.

"Usually, students panic when they haven't secured an internship by May 1st," Presnell said. "This year, that shouldn't be the case."

Presnell also noted that employment opportunities offered through Hopkins were still in abundance this year, despite the current economic struggles.

"The number of Hopkins internships posted were greater this year than they were last year," Presnell said.



COURTESY OF LAWREPORTS.CO.UK
A student and family were found dead.

N.Y. family found dead during Loyola visit

On the afternoon of April 20, the bodies of a Loyola student and her family were found in a Towson Sheraton hotel room.

Stephanie Parente, a 19-year-old Loyola sophomore, was staying with her family, who were visiting the area from their home in Long Island, NY. Parente, her 11-year-old sister and her parents were all dead at the scene.

The Baltimore County police believe the killing was a murder-suicide committed by one of the parents.

On Monday, friends and neighbors in the Parentes' hometown grew concerned as they couldn't reach anyone in the family.

On-campus, students noticed Stephanie Parentes' ab-

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NEWS & FEATURES

Kumari will satisfy Indian food cravings

Mount Vernon is known for its music facilities, culture and ethnic food, among other things. Kumari seems to be one among many in the crowd, but its quality of food and service make it stand out, even though its relatively plain exterior could use a new paint job. It sits two blocks north of Washington Circle, a short walk from the JHMI shuttle's stop at Peabody Conservatory.

The restaurant is distinct from other Indian restaurants in the immediate area in that it serves food from both India and Nepal. Stepping into the building out of the waning heat of the sun, my friend and I are greeted with a dimly-lit interior after a short flight of steps. The restaurant is divided into three sections extending into the back of the building. The kitchen area is below the restaurant, and all dishes rise from the stairs in the center of the restaurant.

After we are seated, we are presented with the menu and poured glasses of ice water. The setting can be either formal or casual: It is really the diner's choice. There are folded cloth napkins and a paper placemat,

with a small plate to the side, but it doesn't necessarily have to be a restaurant for a fancy date simply because it has nice table settings.

Kumari's items appear rather pricey at first glance, but one must remember that the restaurant strives for quality and uniqueness. The entrée items range from \$10 to \$15 or more and are quite varied. There are extensive chicken, lamb and vegetarian sections, as well as salads and appetizers for those who are interested. The menu also contains various specialty sections with a variety of choices.

On the back is a drink menu, including various wines. My friend and I each ordered a lassi, which is an Indian yogurt drink. Mine was strawberry flavored, while his was mango. We also got an order of garlic naan (\$3) to share. At an Indian restaurant, it is important to sample staple foods like naan. I ordered an eggplant dish called Baigar Bhartha (\$11), while my friend ordered lamb jalfreezi (\$14).

A complementary starter dish was brought out. Our waitress told us it was called "poppidum," but I am fairly certain that is not how it is spelled.

They looked like giant chips of some sort. They tasted like potato, and were light, thin and crispy. It came with three dipping sauces: a pickled red pepper, a thin red paste that neither of us could really pinpoint and a mint-flavored dip that had a spicy aftertaste. All in all, it was a very unique starter, with a variety of pure flavors.

Soon, the garlic naan arrived. It had a very nice color to it and was topped with chopped cilantro and garlic. Though the garlic was visible, the taste of garlic may not be as strong as some may hope after seeing the garlic on top. The bread was crisp on the outside and chewy on the inside. On the whole, it was a tasty appetizer. I saved a piece to eat with the entrées.

The entrées came together, with a bowl of Jasmine rice. All three came with large serving spoons for easy sharing, and we each received large plates of our own. Surprisingly, none of our curries were spicy or salty. Instead, they were borderline sweet, which was unexpected. However, the flavors were excellent.

The eggplant dish did not have any pieces of eggplant in it. Rather, the eggplant was "mashed" into the curry, essentially forming its base. The dish also contained tomatoes, peas, onions, ginger strips, scalions and cilantro. The dish felt like a comfort

food: It was very easy to eat, and it came together with the rice very nicely.

The lamb jalfreezi contained large chunks of lamb, with tomato pieces and strips of cooked bell pepper. The sauce was tomato based and reminiscent of a fancy pasta sauce, but it tasted milder since it had much less salt.

The lamb was cooked to a nice consistency, though my friend found it to be a bit dry. I actually found that it tasted like beef, oddly enough. Must have been the heat from earlier that day playing tricks on my senses.

At first glance, it seems that the amount of food we received was small, but the boat shaped bowls that the curries were served in were deeper than originally expected. By the time I was about halfway through my food, I was already feeling fairly full.

In a word, the meal was very satisfying: it made our stomachs happy and our hearts content. Walking back to the bus stop was going to be a difficult trip with such a full stomach.



YUFENG GUO/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
The menu at Kumari includes cuisine from both India and Nepal.

Introducing the New Prep: flaunt it while you've got it



COURTESY OF HTTP://MEDIA.COLLEGE.PUBLISHER.COM
The east coast prep look is back this spring with collared shirts and patterns.

My system has been messed up for some time now. I've started drinking coffee multiple times a day and I've been busy with less than interesting courses. On top of that, the whole two days of sun, five days of rain thing has thrown me off balance. As I bid you adieu this very fashionable spring, I'd like to provide a little social commentary on what I've seen on campus these past few weeks.

First off, I've noticed that the East Coast prep-school look has been in full swing this spring. A lot of men on campus have opted for a more refined look while pounding back forties on the Beach. I actually wrote my first ever column on the checks and plaid trend two years ago, and the look has finally trickled down into the college stu-

dent's closet. I think this is great. I personally love the look because it allows you to be casually classy on campus without being ostracized for being overdressed. In the words of my gracious counterpart Amanda Jean Boyle, who filled in for me last week, "most guys shy away from color and pattern, but color and pattern look great on everyone."

No doubt that the number of plaid, checked and even madras shorts have been on the rise lately. It leaves me wondering how long it will take for the athletically-inclined to start wearing paisley and floral-printed shirts too.

The dominant combinations I've seen are patterned shorts with a polo or untucked button-down shirt. I'd encourage a little nonconformity here and there, perhaps with a thin V-neck or argyle sweater vest. Experiment with different styles and patterns. Who wants to blend in anyway?

It's interesting to think about this trend though: Why, in times of mass lay-offs and economic trouble, are college students turning to clothing originally made by upper class companies for wealthy New Englanders? Is it the old Max Bialystock phrase, "Flaunt it while you got it!" or is it perhaps a reassurance of our self-worth? Or maybe I've just been bullshitting myself because I've been spending too much time on a forsaken essay and in actuality, college boys have been watching too much *Gossip Girl* for their own good. Either way, I enjoy the trend and the color and pattern combinations students keep coming up with.

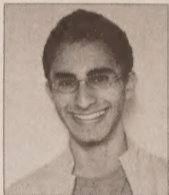
On another note, I hate Baltimore rain. In this city, when it rains, it pours. And what can you possibly do when you're caught in what seems like a flash flood and your pants are wet to the thighs? Well, you can sit in class feeling like an idiot for ever leaving your room, or we can prevent this situation. It's a miracle that designers are producing more men's rain boots than ever. I, unfortunately, do not see college men owning rain boots anytime soon, so I'll skip to a related subject: Raincoats. I've talked liberally about trench coats and Thomas Burberry, so I'll talk about something else this time.

"Mackintosh is a brand of modern heritage built on true craftsmanship and a two hundred year history. In 1823, Charles Macintosh (without the 'k') developed the process of spreading rubber onto cotton to create the world's first waterproof fabric, signaling the arrival of the original Mackintosh coat."

That's what their Web site says. Absolutely riveting stuff, no? "The Mac" has been around for a while, and like the trench, is a popular choice when it comes to raincoats. Unlike the trench, however, it has no lapels, no belt and no epaulettes.

While I prefer the utilitarian look, I'm sure others prefer a more subdued and minimalist style. Lucky for you, Macs are everywhere now, whether or not produced by the actual Mackintosh raincoat company.

They come in a variety of colors, where as trenches are mainly in tan, black and navy. So, along with the New Prep trend, (I'm coining the term) make sure you pickup a nice Mac because while it may be scorching outside the next few days, the chance of a flash flood in Charles Village is still extremely high.



Siavash Raigani
Hop Couture

An interview with fashion designer, Hopkins student Michael Van Maele

About a month ago, the sorority Kappa Kappa Gamma put on the First Annual Fashion Show at Hopkins, where some local designers and boutiques showed and Hopkins students modeled. However, more importantly, Hopkins' own Michael Van Maele showed a collection of women's wear. Here, he answered some questions about his thoughts on the latest spring trends, and what it's like to design a fashion line.

AJB: How long have you been designing for? What originally made you want to design?

MV: I have been designing for three years. My mom used to do craft shows, so there was an ample supply of needles, thread and fabric around the house. The availability of all the necessary materials combined with one too many episodes of *Project Runway* is what I consider the spark that started my fashion career.

AJB: Where do you see fashion designing playing into your

future?

MV: I will be sad to stop designing, but as science takes center stage in my life, it is only natural that activities which also take up a lot of time get put on the back burner. I think that I will always design as a creative outlet. Whether or not there is time to actually execute and present designs depends on how busy things get during the summer! A long-term goal of mine is to get on *Project Runway* and to show at a major fashion week, but we will have to wait and see what happens.

AJB: Has being at college changed your views on fashion any? What is your major, did you consider going to school for fashion?

MV: Being at college has made me realize the absolute necessity of comfort, something I had previously written off. I just can't be productive studying unless I'm in comfortable, breathable cotton, preferably Calvin Klein. I can't take off my CK shorts this summer. I ended up being a biomedical engineering major at Hopkins, and although I briefly flirted with the idea of going to design school, I would much rather be an engineer by trade than a fashion designer.

Amanda Jean Boyle
The Brick Runway



find the time to make all the clothes??

MV: It's all about summer and intercession! Also, during spring break, I moved in with my friend who lives on St. Paul to work on some clothes. I don't plan on sacrificing many more of those breaks, however. It is a very time-consuming process and less so the more planning you put into it, so I don't anticipate spending 10 hours a day on an outfit anymore, as had to be done with this most recent collection.

AJB: What were your favorite collections from the Spring runway last month?

MV: I am ever the loyal Versace fan. I am keeping my eye on Blumarine for trends, which I think will show up on college campuses. Burberry has never let me down yet. When I watch a fashion show, I am almost always most affected by the overall presentation rather than individual pieces. Versace is a master of putting on a show with music, lights and staging. That is what really draws me to a brand.

AJB: What would you say was your inspiration for this collection?

MV: I am inspired by simplicity and recurring lines. I try to see what women wear when they feel best about themselves, and I toss in luxury elements that I'm drawn to such as rare colors, textures, intricate necklines and creative pleating. For this collection specifically, I wanted to make an evening scene that could be accessed by all women who have events to go to at night, no matter who they are. There were many strapless pieces and flared skirts since I feel that is a common denominator for evening chic for many women. It was all about finding the time and place for the fashion and going from there.

AJB: And when do you

AJB: Did you have a favorite



COURTESY OF MICHAEL VAN MAELE
Van Maele's predicts that his next fashion line will be more thematic than his first.

piece from the collection?

MV: Yes! I love the blue dress that Millie wore. I hope it is well-loved in its new home.

AJB: And can you see Hopkins girls wearing your dresses? Who would be your dream woman to design for?

MV: I would love to see the girls here wearing my clothes. The dresses from the collection were created with them in mind as my audience. My dream woman to design for is Anne Hathaway. I can't imagine a more beautiful woman. She is unreal!

AJB: What about men's fashion, are you interested in designing a men's line in the future?

MV: I have designed menswear, but I have not created any yet. I think there is a major market among Hopkins student for menswear, especially casual wear, that I would like to reach with my business. I would like at least to add three or four menswear looks to my spring collection next year.

AJB: On that note, are you already planning another collection?

MV: Of course! I am going to be working hard during intercession to pull this one off. I will be traveling across the world this summer, and I am hoping to find some wonderful inspiration abroad in Europe and Asia. I am going to try to show many more



COURTESY OF MICHAEL VAN MAELE
Van Maele poses with a model wearing one of his spring designs.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

EDITORIALS

Sustainability

The April 25 Baltimore Bike Blast is one component of Baltimore City's greater commitment to Mayor Sheila Dixon's Sustainability Plan. Aimed at encouraging alternatives to automotive travel, the Bike Blast that took place in Druid Hill Park drew hundreds of participants, many of whom gained a renewed confidence in bike riding and promised to trade four wheels for two more often, according to Bike Blast volunteer David Shapiro.

Placed within the greater context, this initiative represents the city's dedication to making Baltimore a cleaner, more eco-friendly city while promoting good health practices for its citizens. The Baltimore Department of Transportation asserted that an increase in the number of bikers would lessen traffic congestion and decrease pollution. In addition to the practical benefits of bike riding, the symbolic message of putting bike racks in parking spots, creating bike lanes on major roadways and promot-

ing a "share the road" mentality strengthens the city's image of a sustainable Baltimore.

Here at Hopkins, the Sustainability Initiative has also attempted to expose students to the positive impact of bike riding. This page believes that by and large, Hopkins is internally a walking community; however, outside of campus activities, we do not presume that many students use bikes as a primary or even secondary means of transportation. Students at our university and across America are the products of a fast-paced, consumption-based culture, hesitant to trade convenience for sustainability and reluctant to burden ourselves with environmental policies resulting in few tangible short-term advantages. Yet policies such as these have the potential to create institutional change. If the efforts of the city and on-campus organizations are able to impact their respective populations, this page will continue to be confident in the hope for a sustainable future.

Necessary Precautions

As the number of swine flu cases increases each day throughout the United States, the University's attempts to address this growing health concern and keep students informed is an important and timely effort.

As of Wednesday evening, there have been six possible, though unconfirmed, cases of swine flu reported in Maryland: three in Baltimore County and three in neighboring Anne Arundel county. At the behest of the Hopkins Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response (CEPAR), the Health and Wellness Center has started using rapid flu tests for anyone exhibiting flu-like symptoms and the Housing and Dining Office has done a preliminary assessment of possible spaces that could be used for emergency isolation should this become necessary.

We call on the University

to continue to set an example for both the outstanding community and other universities. With Hopkins as a premier medical institution, its response to the spread of swine flu will provide a model for other institutions to follow. Thus far it has fulfilled its role admirably.

We hope that these measures will be unnecessary. However, the precautions are vital when preparing for a potential outbreak in the greater Baltimore area. We encourage the University to continue to take these precautions and to hold student safety as a priority of utmost importance in the upcoming months. Ensuring the protection and well-being of the student body should remain the primary goal of the University as the situation continues to evolve. This page is confident that the University will handle this possible threat to the Hopkins community adequately.

Protecting Baltimore's Culture

General Growth Properties' (GGP) decision to declare bankruptcy for its Inner Harbor property, Harborplace, is the most recent result of the struggling economy, the next in what has become a series of unfortunate casualties for both Baltimore's current and historic cultural venues. The ambiguous result of the city's attempt to save the Senator Theatre has illustrated that, given the current economic recession, Baltimore is unable to protect some of its most famous long-standing tourist and civic centers.

While this page agrees that the city should allocate funding carefully, prioritizing projects that are of the greatest tangible benefit for the community (namely, public health works or safety initiatives), we believe that the protection and preservation of these cultural landmarks could not be more vital to the survival of Baltimore City.

Councilman William H. Cole IV has stated that he is confident that the Chapter 11

claim was merely an attempt to restructure finances, allowing GGP to recover from its \$27 billion debt; Harborplace remains open for business, and Cole believes Maryland's most frequented tourist attraction will experience a revival in the coming months. Hopefully this will keep Harborplace thriving, but if GGP continues to struggle, we implore the city to take action to preserve such an important indicator of Baltimore's economic stability. Waiting until the venue has closed for business, as was the case in the handling of the Senator Theatre, will be too late.

It is said that the progress of a nation is defined by its commitment to the arts — in the midst of the Great Depression, President Roosevelt created programs under the Works Progress Administration (WPA) in order to ensure the survival of America's artistic culture. In light of the current economic situation, we must reaffirm our dedication to this belief.

Anne Faber



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS POLICY

The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or emailed to News.Letter@jhu.edu for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and can not be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Only one author's name may be included. Groups, teams and other organizations may not submit letters, only individuals. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER

PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

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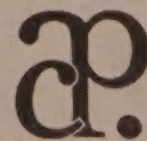
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OPINIONS

Colin Ray

Sober Preakness is Bad Preakness

The rapid approach of the Kentucky Derby and all that is associated with it, namely hats, Thoroughbreds and mint julep chug-offs in the infield, reminds us that Baltimore's jewel in the Triple Crown, The Preakness Stakes, is rapidly approaching. The Preakness, over the past two decades, has been the race that horses winning the Kentucky Derby and losing the Belmont Stakes have romped to victory at, in front of 100,000 Baltimoreans and visitors.

However, as any true Preakness fan (not horse racing fan, Preakness fan) will tell you, horses have almost nothing to do with having a good time at what I formerly referred to as, with respect to the Gators and Dawgs, "The World's Largest Outdoor Light Beer Drinking Party." Simply put, the Preakness is not a horse-racing event, but a drinking event for nearly all of the 60,000 drunks who cram themselves into apocalyptic Hobbesian state-of-nature conditions within the chain-link fenced infield at Pimlico. For the life of the Preakness, the infield has been famous for being a

place where you can bring as much beer or wine in as you want and leave your cooler, yard chair and dignity in the mud next to someone's kiddie pool full of light beers at the conclusion of the day's racing activities. One Preakness veteran says of last year, "I think I saw one horse all day." The upside of this, of course, is that Preakness is one of the most fun things a college student, or really anyone, could ever do.

That is, until this year. In their rather finite wisdom, the powers that be have ended the practice

of allowing fans to bring in their own alcohol, instead opting to sell all beer inside the infield on tap. This is probably the worst news ever. The amount of fun that will be lost as a result of this decision is impossible to overstate. If fun at Preakness is a car,

this is sugar in the gas tank followed by blowing up the car and crushing it with a monster truck, melting down the parts and selling them in China. The essence of Preakness infield was drinking with your closest 10 or 11 friends and 59,990 other associates who are available to you, should your conversation lull. At

the very least, this will make it difficult for underage Preakness fans to acquire alcohol, which will have a strong deterrent effect on amount of fun had.

This overlooks one of the most important aspects of Preakness: defending your turf. Upwards of 60,000 people are apt to migrate at the whims of Miller Lite, often resulting in encroachment on other people's areas. In fact, if at the end of the day, you can find the lawn chairs you brought in, your day was a success. It takes several large people to anchor an area while friends migrate to the restroom/betting booth/first-aid station as the case may have called for. A typical setup involves a cooler or kiddie pool in the center of a circle of individuals, forming a protective phalanx around the beer and the land. Excursions away from the home turf once required careful planning. Navigating through 60,000 people, of course, is not an easy task, and I state with great certainty that beer will not survive the trip from the tap to home base, because it will be either spilled or drunk. Add in probable 90 degree temperatures, and your Coors Light will be the warmest beer in America, if it is lucky enough to survive.

The decision to go to cups of beer sold inside will also eliminate two separate traditions famous to the Preakness. First, one that has been under fire for a year now: The Running of the Gauntlet.

One drunk individual, in so running, climbs aboard a row of portapotties and attempts to run to the other side while being pelted with beer cans and the occasional yard chair (search "Running of the Urinals" on <http://www.youtube.com> for further information.) Obvious danger aside, this is probably one of the most entertaining things in the world, and now it's gone forever. The other tradition has a less formal name, but could accurately be described as "Throwing Open Cans of Light Beer as High and Far as You Can, Knowing That You Will Never Get In Trouble for It." Reasons for this range from failing to expose oneself to strangers and mob mentality, but alas, it will be no more as well.

The Preakness Infield Crowd is famous for a blue-collar beer-drinking mentality, unlike the elitists funneling old-fashioneds at Churchill Downs. This feeling of goodwill towards one's light beer-drinking neighbor, even if he's drinking Natty Light, has been eviscerated by this decision. With Pimlico up for sale and powerful interests trying to move the Preakness out of Baltimore, it's a sad day for all Preakness fans when they will have to buy their own beer inside the Infield.

Colin Ray is a senior English major from Chardon, OH.

With the exception of editorials, the opinions expressed here are those of the contributors. They are not necessarily those of The Johns Hopkins News-Letter.

The Decline of Print media:

Blame free access

The Pulitzer Prize Award for journalism was recently awarded even as the faltering newspaper industry struggles to survive. 2009 alone witnessed the end of newspaper editions of *The Chicago Sun Times*, *The Rocky Mountain News*, *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer* (founded during the Civil War) and *The Christian Science Monitor*. (Both the Seattle paper and *The Christian Science Monitor* will remain in online editions).

Although many newspapers still manage to produce a healthy profit, the industry has been in a gradual, but consistent decline for the last 45 years. The current economic crisis has paved the way for bankruptcy. Hundreds of journalists have been laid off and circulation rates continue their descent. The new media — the Internet, cell phones, iPods, computers, movies, instant messaging, video games, the radio, PDAs and especially television — now all compete for our attention.

America's founding fathers believed freedom of the press to be important enough to include it in the First Amendment and could not envision a democracy without print. Thomas Jefferson once said, "Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter." However, the time when Americans received their news and information mainly from the printed word is now only a distant memory.

Perhaps the problem is not that readership is declining but instead that fewer people are paying to read. People have rapidly become accustomed to the notion of reading newspaper articles online for free. According to a recent survey by the Pew Research Center for the People & the Press, the Internet, which emerged this year as a leading source for campaign news, has now surpassed all other media except television as an outlet for national and international news. 40 percent of participants said they get most of their news about national and international issues from the Internet, which would mean that newspapers are actually reaching more readers than ever.

Is the long-term future of the journalism profession in question? Not necessarily. Survival will depend on putting some muscle behind the concept of breaking out of captivity from the print style only. Getting users to pay for news provided on the Internet will be the key. This idea of paying for content on the Internet is not without precedent. The majority of Internet-generated money (mostly from advertising) has ended up flowing to groups that do not actually generate much content but instead capitalize on its search engines and Internet providers. YouTube and Google's video-sharing sites have reaped enormous benefits from the online video audience.

No, I'm not rich, and I realize this won't be a popular path to take among current and potential readers. But as long as articles remain available online for free, people will not pay money to read them. Which means that the creativity and effort of journalists will go unrewarded, a fact already evident with the plunging profits, increasing staff layoffs and frequently filed bankruptcies of newspapers even as the number of online readers continues to climb. Today's aspiring journalist might decide tomorrow that a career in writing is not financially viable and opt to become an investment banker instead, a move that will not bode well for the future of the journalism profession. If content can be provided on the Internet or on a device in such a way that people will prefer it over reading on paper, people will pay. Some people will balk now, but if content is cheap and easily accessible, most people will pay. Charging people for articles will also force journalists to value content and therefore strive to produce high-quality writing to maintain their audience.

If the day when readers pay a nickel for a news article is not easy to envision, look to the iPod. It was Apple who first understood the appeal of a truly great piece of technology. After Steve Jobs created the iPod and linked it to the iTunes Music Store, people started paying for songs again, at a time when free downloading was at its peak and CD music sales were dwindling. To date, Apple has sold more than billion songs on iTunes. Perhaps the newspaper and magazine industry can replicate the success of the iPod.

I'm suggesting this idea because journalism is important, and people still want to hear the news. Newspapers are trusted sources of information, guardians of the free marketplace of ideas, and they cover local events in a way that national news organizations cannot.

Sara Hassani is a junior neuroscience major.

Saumya Gurbani

The First 100 Days: Presidential Milestones

Every era has its milestones, and the tenure of the President of the United States is no exception. From the party conventions to Election Day to the inauguration and the States of the Union, the presidency is separated into a series of chronological intervals. Without external context, these periods may not actually mean much, but to historians and the media, such can be used to measure how an administration is progressing. The first of the presidential intervals is the First 100 Days; Obama's 100th day occurred Wednesday, April 29. The First 100 Days is used by analysts to predict how the course of the full term of presidency will be.

President Obama's first three months in office have been highly publicized in the media, with nearly every major news source having a "First 100 Days" segment in their programming or on their Web sites. President Obama made many promises during his campaign, and the media is waiting to see how he carries out on them. One prominent Web site is the St. Petersburg Times' <http://www.politifact.com>, a 2009 Pulitzer Prize winner that compiles which political promises are carried out and which are broken.

Obama certainly had quite a bit on his plate when he took the office of the president in January: the economy in an all-time low, national security, civil right clashes, health care problems and an ongoing war to deal with. But he promised to take care of all this and more, and he certainly jumped on it immediately and has made a lot of progress even in the first couple months in office. According to PolitiFact, President Obama made 514 promises in his campaign of "hope" and "change." He has already accomplished 27 with seven more under the category of "compromise." These are key milestones in the past 100 days that can give Americans hope for a successful and strong presidency over the next few years.

America did not wait long for an important event, as it came on Obama's third day as president: the executive order to close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay. The facility was the site of human rights violations regarding the treatment of prisoners, and the Bush administration had set up military commissions to try the prisoners. Though the order faced setbacks due to an overruling by the military commission judge, it set two precedents for the Obama administration: that the executive branch would take strong direct action against human rights violations, and that it was willing to alter the controversial policies of previous administrations.

Perhaps the most prominent current issue is the U.S. economic slump. As president, Obama worked hard with Congress to create legislation to help out every American make it through the tough times. The jewel of the first 100 days is the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, colloquially known as the economic stimulus package, signed into effect Feb. 17. This is a major step in setting the economy right; it provides tax relief for families, support for small businesses, bailouts for failing corporations as well as financial



ANNE FABER/GRAPHIC EDITOR

backing for new initiatives in education, green energy and the housing market, amongst others. Despite controversy and a few compromises that were made in order to get the legislation through the houses of Congress, the stimulus package came as a first priority for the new administration at a time when it was desperately needed. It is just the start of a long recovery pe-

riod, but it gives hope that this recession will not last forever and that the Obama administration is making large efforts to ensure a complete recovery.

Another major milestone was the Commander-in-Chief's plan to withdraw troops from Iraq and focus more on the increasing threat in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The Iraq war has been going on for over

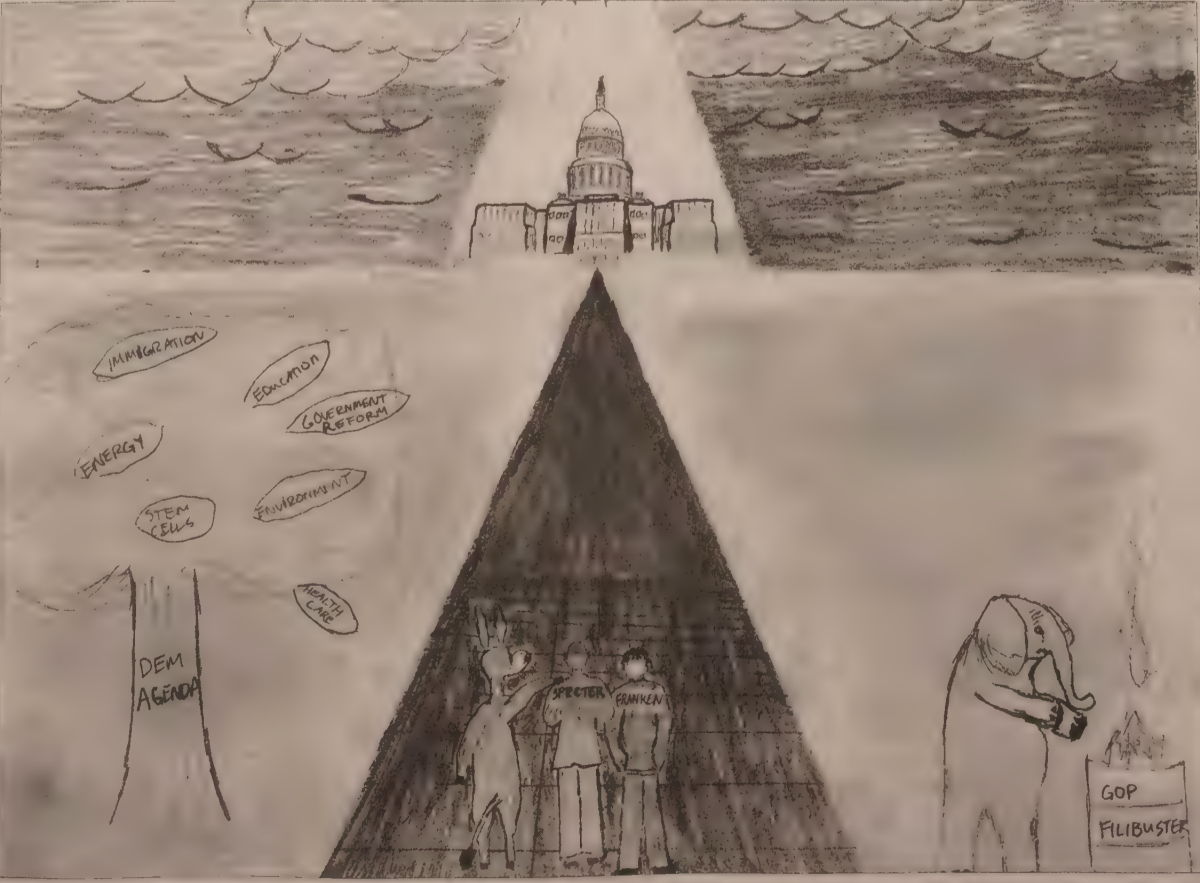
five years, and though the Bush administration had always said that troops would be withdrawn, a firm agenda was never carried out. President Obama made it one of his priorities to do so, and within just a few weeks of being inaugurated, on Feb. 27 he announced that the majority of troops in Iraq would be removed by the summer of 2010. Finally, with the influence of the Taliban spreading from Afghanistan into neighboring Pakistan, Obama announced on March 27 that the U.S. would send more troops to fight the terrorists there. This was a daring move, highly controversial for the Democratic party, but one that was backed with support from the right from military officials and politicians in the U.S. and in Afghanistan. With these two major announcements, Obama made it clear that his Administration over the next few years will overcome traditional party views for the greater good.

President Obama's term is only in its toddler stage, but the administration has already successfully implemented many major changes. In the span of just three months, he has targeted many major issues, and Democrats and Republicans alike can appreciate the effort that is being put in by the new head of state. There is little doubt that President Obama's term will be one marked with epic changes in United States policy.

Op-Ed Cartoon

Logan Quinn

A filibuster-proof majority



Saumya Gurbani is a freshman Biomedical Engineering major from Fullerton, CA.

PHOTO ESSAY



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TERM I: MAY 26 – JUNE 26

TERM II: JUNE 29 – JULY 31

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APRIL 30, 2009

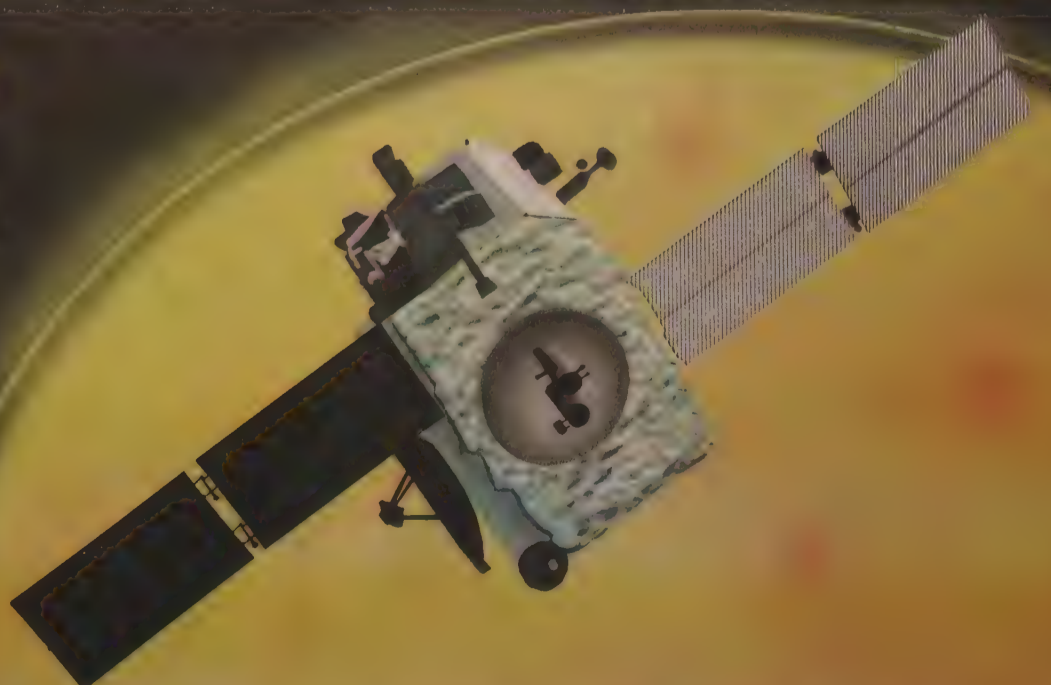
STUDENTS CRAFT KINETIC CREATION

PAGE B3



NASA Shoots for the Stars

STEREO
mission captures
3-D images of solar
explosions,
page B8.



CALENDAR APR. 30 - MAY 6

Sum 41 comes to Sonar this Saturday



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.ALLMOVIEPHOTO.COM](http://www.allmoviephoto.com)
Deryck Whibley, lead vocals and lead guitar for Sum 41, will perform this weekend.

Sum 41 was originally conceived as a NOFX cover band called Kaspir by high school classmates. Today the members include Deryck Whibley (lead vocals, guitar, keyboards), Cone McCaslin (bass guitar, backing vocals) and Steve Jocz (drums, percussion and backing vocals).

The band's name derives from the fact that they were formed 41 days into the summer of 1996. They released their EP *Half Hour of Power* in 2000 and followed it up with their critically acclaimed *All Killer No Filler*, which topped charts around the world. In November of 2002, they released their sophomore album *Does This Look Infected?*

In May 2004 the band found itself in mortal danger during a trip to Africa to promote awareness of the civil war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. While staying at a hotel, fighting broke out nearby and the band soon found itself being rocked by explosions from bombs and bulletfire. A UN peacekeeper, Charles "Chuck" Pelletier ordered the evacuation of the band and 40 other civilians. In his honor, the band named their third album *Chuck*.

In July of 2007, the band released their fourth album, *Underclass Hero*, debuting at seven on the U.S. charts. In the summer of 2008, the band's expected EP transformed into an LP and is expected to be released sometime in 2009.

The genre of Sum 41's music is in dispute by their fans because of their complex combination of different musical styles and a more serious, mature sound found in later albums.

Although *All Killer No Filler* was purely pop punk, *Does This Look Infected?* leans more toward alternative rock and alternative metal, with *Chuck* being mostly alternative metal.

Underclass Hero saw a resurgence of the band's initial pop punk/punk rock style. Disputes over Sum 41's genre center around the punk streak of the band, and they have been labeled as pop punk, punk rock, alternative rock and alternative metal.

Sum 41 will be performing songs from their compilation album *All The Good Shit* this Saturday at 7 p.m. at Sonar.

Campus Events

Thursday, April 30

8 p.m. Octopodes Spring Concert

The a capella group will perform their spring concert at 8 p.m. in the Bloomberg Auditorium.

Friday, May 1

7:30 p.m. Adoremus Spring Concert

The a capella group will perform their spring concert in Mudd Auditorium.

Saturday, May 2

TBA. Unveiling of Johns Hopkins Founders Wall

The University will unveil a new campus landmark honoring generations of philanthropic visionaries and celebrating a tradition of giving that goes back to our founder himself. The Johns Hopkins Founders Wall, made of marble and brick and stretching 104 feet in front of Garland Hall on Homewood's Decker Quad, is engraved with the names of the institution's most generous supporters. The wall will remain covered until Saturday, when it will be officially dedicated at an event celebrating the impact of philanthropy at Hopkins.

9 a.m. University Job Fair

In anticipation of potential job opportunities arising from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (the federal economic stimulus package), Hopkins will hold a job fair this Saturday. The University is seeking candidates for specialized science and administrative jobs expected to open up thanks to extra research funding in the stimulus package. Most of the positions expected to open up will require at least a bachelor's degree. The fair will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. The location will be disclosed to job-seekers who register in advance on the University's human resources Web site. To register, potential attendees should go to <http://hr.jhu.edu/jobfair>.

Sunday, May 3

6 p.m. AllNighters Spring Show

The a capella group will perform their spring concert at 6 p.m. in the Bloomberg Auditorium.

Local Events

Thursday, May 30

7 p.m. Last Thursday Monthly Poetry Night

Held at the Eubie Blake Center the last Thursday of every month, this poetry night is a great opportunity for poets to get some stage time and share their words. This

event is hosted by Vickie M. Oliver-Lawson, a poet and author.

6:30 p.m. Science Uncorked: Wineology 101

Experts from the Wine Market will be on hand to lead a discussion on the qualities of wine, such as taste zones, clarity and bouquet, while explaining the science behind wine. Learn the role of scent, color and taste in buying and enjoying wine at the Maryland Science Center. Tickets are \$35-40. Call (410) 545-5960 or visit <http://www.mdsci.org/> for more information.

Friday, May 1

11 a.m. Mount Vernon Flower Mart

Dancers, puppeteers, children's activities, authors and choirs will all be present at the Washington Monument in Mount Vernon for a weekend (May 1 and 2 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.) filled with vendors selling plants and flowers. Food, drink and contests will divert those who come with those who love flowers. Visit <http://www.flowermart.org> for more information.

3 p.m. Dump for Dollars

The Hopkins chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi is coordinating a new philanthropy event: Dump for Dollars from 3 to 5 p.m. The event aims to raise money for the Maryland Food Bank and the Shaare

Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem. The freshman quad will be partitioned off into a grid for a cow to graze in. Whichever square in the grid the cow defecates in, the corresponding ticketholder will win \$500. Various prizes will be raffled off during the event as well. The rest of the money will be donated to the charities.

7:30 p.m. Close-Ups: Psychoanalysts Look at Film

The 2007 film *Lars and the Real Girl*, by Craig Gillespie; A discussion with Noreen Honeycutt will follow. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Special prices are available in advance for BMA members and for students. Visit <http://www.artbma.org/> or call (443) 573-1700 for more information.

8 p.m. Maestro Sensational Presents: MS3 Resurrection

Baltimore's oldest puppet troupe, led by host and giant-sock Maestro Sensational and Owen Brightman, Kevin Sherry, April Wood, Justic Lucas and Michael Lamason will entertain with an evening of vaudeville, slapstick and more. Music will be provided by Walker and Jay, and guests include local performers. Owen Brightman, Squidfire's Kevin Sherry, April Wood and Justin Lucas will be on hand for this night of adult-oriented puppetry. This event will go through Saturday, at 8 and 10 p.m. For more info, visit <http://www.blackcherry.org/>.

MOVIE OPENINGS

Tokyo Sonata

Opening at the Charles Theatre
Friday, May 15

(410) 727-FILM or <http://www.thecharles.com> for showtimes

FROM ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR KIYOSHI KUROSAWA
TERUYUKI KAGAWA KYOKO KOIZUMI YU KOYANAGI KAI INOWAKI KOJI YAKUSHO



TOKYO SONATA
EVERY FAMILY HAS ITS SECRETS

COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.IMPAAWARDS.COM](http://www.impaawards.com)

Tokyo Sonata portrays a seemingly normal Japanese family in which the husband loses his job and the wife tries to keep the family together.

8 p.m. Trixie Little and the Evil Hate Monkey Present Elegance

This throwback night of burlesque comedy at Larry Flynt's Hustler Club on Baltimore Street will certainly open your eyes. Neo-burlesquers Catherine D'Lish, Peekaboo Pointe and Dr. Lucky will be performing, and the event will be hosted by Miss Astrid. Tickets are \$20, visit <http://www.hustler-baltimore.com/> or call (410) 468-0990 for more information.

Saturday, May 2

All Day, Kinetic Sculpture Race

This Baltimore tradition is a race of wacky human-powered machines and vehicles designed to travel on all Baltimore terrain: sand, water, pavement and more. Kinetinauts will be striving for the Mediocre Award (finishing exactly in the middle) and Next-to-the-Last Award. Participants are encouraged to wear outrageous costumes and cheer on their favorite teams. More information can be found at <http://www.kineticbaltimore.com>.

All Day, Internal Free Comic Book Day

At comic book stores across the country, free comic books will be given away. At Atomic Books, select titles such as *Bird Hurdler*, *Candy Or Medicine*, *Love & Rockets*, *Attack Of The Alterna Zombies*, *FCHS*, *Bongo Comics*, *Resurrection*, *The Avengers*, *Aliens/Predator*, *Archie*, *Project Superpowers*, *GI Joe/Transformers Animated*, *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*, *Cars: The Rookie*, *Shonen Jump Special*, *Nancy/Melvin The Monster*, *Green Lantern: Blackest Night*, *Savage Dragon* and *Moth Greatest Hits*.

9 a.m. Station North Flea Market

Located at the Howard Street Bridge in the Station North Arts District, this community-based flea market is open to the public as well as to neighborhood groups and vendors. Unique finds such as original art, home furnishings and clothing await. Visit <http://www.loadoffun.net/FleaMarket.html> for more information.

10 a.m. BUGS Farmer's Market

Come support the kids of BUGS (Baltimore Urban Gardening with Students) program, in which third to fifth graders show off their hard work in putting together a business and Farmer's Market. Jewelry, ceramics and more will be sold in addition to plants, seeds and other foodstuffs at the Living Classrooms Foundation located at 802 S. Caroline St. from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call (410) 685-0295-202 or visit <http://www.bugsprograms.org> for more information.

10 a.m. Towsontown Spring Festival

This festival includes a child-friendly section, pony rides, NASCAR and sports area, local and ethnic food and traditions, an Antique Classic Cars show, and four music stages. The event is all Saturday (10 a.m. to 7 p.m.) and Sunday (1 to 7 p.m.) at the Towson Courthouse Square.

1 p.m. Boundary Block Party

Celebrate the neighborhoods of Upton, Bolton Hill, Madison Park and Sandown during their yearly block party. Family-friendly activities such as a break dancing workshop, free food, games and prizes, short walking tours of the neighborhood and a public art project will be available. Visit <http://www.boundaryblockparty.com> for more information.

7 p.m. Sum 41

Canadian pop-punk band Sum 41 performs songs from their greatest hits album *All the Good S**t* at Sonar at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Visit <http://www.sonar-baltimore.com> for more information.

Sunday, May 3

10:30 a.m. Cinema Sundays

Held every Sunday at the Charles Theater, this Sunday's movie is *Tokyo Sonata*, a Cannes Festival prize-winning portrait of a Japanese family disintegrating after the father loses his job. The film explores the dark side of human nature and social problems in contemporary Japan.

Tuesday, May 5

7:30 p.m. Baltimore Jewish Film Festival

This festival showcases Jewish interest films premiering in Baltimore and will be held at the Gordon Center for Performing Arts. Movies include *Fugitive Pieces* on May 5, *Circumcise Me: The Comedy of Yisrael Campbell* on May 7 and *The Monster Among Us* on May 14. Visit <http://www.baltimorejff.com> for more information.

Thursday, May 7

8 p.m. Maryland Film Festival

This year's film festival, held at The Charles Theatre, will open at the MICA Brown Center with Bobcat Goldthwait's "Goldthwait Home Movies" and other assorted shorts. Featured films include *Love Songs* directed by Christophe Honore, a French film about three lovers living in Paris, and *Polliwood*, a "film essay" centered on this past year's Republican and Democratic conventions as well as the presidential inauguration. Complete film schedule is available at <http://www.md-film-fest.com/schedule.cfm>.

Exposure

By Leah Mainiero



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Hopkins team masterminds a kinetic mascot *Eco-friendly Earth will dazzle but overwhelm*

By **AMY CONWELL**
Staff Writer

On Saturday, the American Visionary Art Museum (AVAM) will host its annual East Coast Kinetic Sculpture Race Championship on the shore of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. This innovative race is adapted from the initiative of California artist Hobart Brown, who in 1969 transformed his son's tricycle into a five-wheeled pentacycle for a race down Main Street. Maryland's modern day equivalent of this vehicle is known as a "kinetic sculpture" and has evolved into an "amphibious, human-powered work of art custom-built for the race."

Sponsored by an Arts Innovation grant and the Program in Museums and Society, the Hopkins team was able to realize its goal of competing in the race with their sculpture, "Twitter Jay and the Recyclists."

Under the blue head of the sculpture, graduate student David Hung, engineering director of the project, and junior Josh Hewitt, technology director, our pilots, take their seats. In what may prove to be a rash decision, they have promised to pedal Hopkins' sculpture throughout the entire eight hour, 15-mile span of the race. The rest of the Hopkins team will mostly cheer on their fellow sculptors, while some will work as the official pit crew.

Nora Krinitsky, a student earning her minor in Museums and Society, first learned about the race through trips to the AVAM, during which she saw some past sculptures. She subsequently contacted Joan Freedman, the director of the Digital Media Center (DMC), who frequently supports student projects. Through Freedman, Krinitsky met others who were interested in the race, and her team slowly formed.

On the actual day of the race, graduate student Rebecca Shapiro and DMC staff member Yana Sakellion will watch from the sidelines, while all other team members — senior Krinitsky, project manager and head of logistics, Joan Freedman, DMC director and advisor, sophomore Tabor Barranti, artistic director, junior Aasiyeh Zarafshar, sophomore Ian Lee, and freshman Stephanie Smith — will serve in



COURTESY OF BRITNI CROCKER

The Hopkins team surrounds their mobile creation, "Twitter Jay and the Recyclists" which will compete in the upcoming race.

the pit crew. As previously mentioned, Hung and Hewitt will be piloting the mobile sculpture.

Although the Hopkins team built their kinetic sculpture collaboratively, the leadership roles that both Hung and Barranti assumed in the engineering and artistic aspects of the sculpture became crucial to the vehicle's successful completion.

Hung led the team in developing the mechanical elements of their sculpture. With the help of engineering professors and Hung's leadership and initiative, the team performed a variety of tasks, one of which involved incorporating bikes, necessary flotation devices and paddle wheels into the sculpture.

Barranti, a mechanical engineer, spearheaded the sculpture's artistic construction. She designed the body of the bird, shaping its frame with hoops of electrical conduit covered with plastic chicken wire. She also directed the feathering of the bird. To accomplish this, she ironed plastic bags together to make a continuous fabric for the wings and tail and tied strips of the bags onto the plastic chicken wire covering the bird's body to make the feathers.

These plastic bags were the team's primary method of manifesting their theme of recycling in the project. They also utilized recycled flotation devices and tools. They used barrels from a Pepsi plant in their flotation device and

used a donated on-board laptop as well as a cell phone on loan from Mobil-Trac for the Twitter texts.

The involvement of both the DMC staff and student staff in this project enabled the Hopkins team to give their sculpture a unique technical slant.

The team will be recording live footage of the race and data about the riders through webcams and an on-board laptop. This information will later be displayed at the Mattin Center party on May 8.

Additionally, the Hopkins team set up a Twitter account (username hopkinsbluejay). According to Krinitsky, "On the day of the race, spectators will be able to [send] text messages to the sculpture at (443) 453-4012 and see their messages appear on the LED sign that is affixed to the back of the sculpture."

As novices to the race, Krinitsky and her team have spent a lot of time planning the water stretch of the race, often the most challenging element. However, despite the hours of work they have put into preparation and building, Krinitsky's focus is simple: having a good time. "I am re-

ally just looking forward to a fun day enjoying this crazy Baltimore event!" said Krinitsky. "I think it's great when Hopkins students participate in community events like this, which I think is an important aspect of our project."

The team's fun-loving spirit is evident in their decision to not attempt to achieve ACE, the award for the highest level of competition. They are actually hoping for one of the less serious awards, such as the "Golden Dinosaur," which is awarded to the first vehicle to break down, the "Worst Honorable Mention," which is apparently the "lowest award known to humankind," or the "Golden Flipper," which is awarded to the most creative water entry. A few other awards ("Best Bribes" and "Sock Creature of the Universe") are even less serious.

Finally, the team's determination to be prepared for anything and everything is clear in their "bribe" for the judges (it is rumored that teams are supposed to appeal to the judges' more material sides): the Hopkins team procured blue Peeps, representative of their mascot, to help push the judges in the right direction.

By **GREG SGAMMATO**
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Nature is truly astounding. When one sees *Earth*, the new feature-length version of the BBC's acclaimed series *Planet Earth*, such thoughts are the first to come to mind. After beginning with remarkable shots of the Earth taken from space, the film continues to showcase the planet and its inhabitants in all their glory.

Alas, if only that is all the movie tried to accomplish. As with any environmental film, it feels obligated to serve as both a phenomenal visual showcase and a public service announcement. Global warming is a very real threat, and the filmmakers, Alastair Fothergill and Mark Linfield, won't let anyone within 10 miles of their movie forget it.

Not-so-subtle references and a constant focus on climate change inundate the viewer with eco-friendly information; After a while, one loses interest in the stunning visuals and can only hear the incessant references to the importance of keeping this world healthy.

Before we get to that point though, there is plenty of footage to keep us satisfied. The film, beginning at the North Pole and working its way to the South Pole, follows several families of animals on their seasonal migrations. The first scenes showcase the Arctic during winter, a visual masterpiece of sparkling ice and mountains of frost. Enter two young polar bear cubs and their mother, who have emerged from their den for the first time in months. The cubs can hardly walk, and the first few moments of the film — in which the pair attempt to follow their mother

down a slope — are truly adorable.

Next we see footage of caribou, traveling across the plains of North America. Stalking these unsuspecting creatures is a group of wolves, one of which begins to chase a young caribou. Inevitably, the wolf catches its prey, and instantly the film loses any semblance of innocence. Throughout the rest of the film, death and suffering in the animal kingdom are recurring motifs. A family of elephants is stalked by a lion pack, leading to multiple elephants being turned into dinner. A great white shark envelops a baby seal in its jaws. The father of the aforementioned polar bears swims in search of food for days, just to unsuccessfully attack a group of walrus. As a result, even witnessing an animal not being

eaten leads the viewer to feel sorrowful. Nature is gruesome, and not even a Disney-produced film such as this will hide that fact.

As thematically grim as it may be, the film is undoubtedly beautiful. The camera soars over the Sahara Desert and captures aerial shots of Mount Everest. The audience is led through the jungles of the Amazon, down waterfalls and up mountains, following nature's creatures as they migrate for the change of seasons. Various birds of paradise grace the screen, displaying their beauty and prowess in attracting mates. A cheetah bounds after its prey, exercising every muscle it has. Slow-motion shots ensure that no moment of the action, whether it involves animals or not, is missed.

On a mechanical level, the film works seamlessly.

SEE *EARTH*, PAGE B4

EARTH

Starring: James Earl Jones
Run Time: 96 min.
Rating: G
Playing at: Landmark Harbor East, AMC Loews White March Theatre

S.L.A.M. stuns audience with polished hip-hop moves

By **NATALIE BERKMAN**
Staff Writer

To kick off Spring Fair, S.L.A.M. showcased its hip-hop and step dancing for a crowd of excited fans at Shriver on Friday night. S.L.A.M. (or Stop Look At Me!) is the only hip-hop dance and step team on campus. For about one hour, this large group of talented students danced to popular songs with synchronized choreography and had fun doing it.

Living up to their name, S.L.A.M. made everyone stop and look at them as they performed energetic and difficult-looking dances with practiced precision. It was obvious that the many members of the vari-

ous dance groups represented had rehearsed patiently for some time.

It began with a group of students wearing baseball caps covering their faces and posing onstage. With sudden and synchronized motions, they got into formation and began to dance.

The ensemble dances throughout the entire performance were all very impressive and enjoyable. Their choreography matched the music in very interesting ways. Group dances usually employed some humor — sometimes sexual — and the smaller dances were very passionate. The moves were choreographed to match the beat. Every pulse had a corresponding action, every pointed word had

SEE *SLAM*, PAGE B5

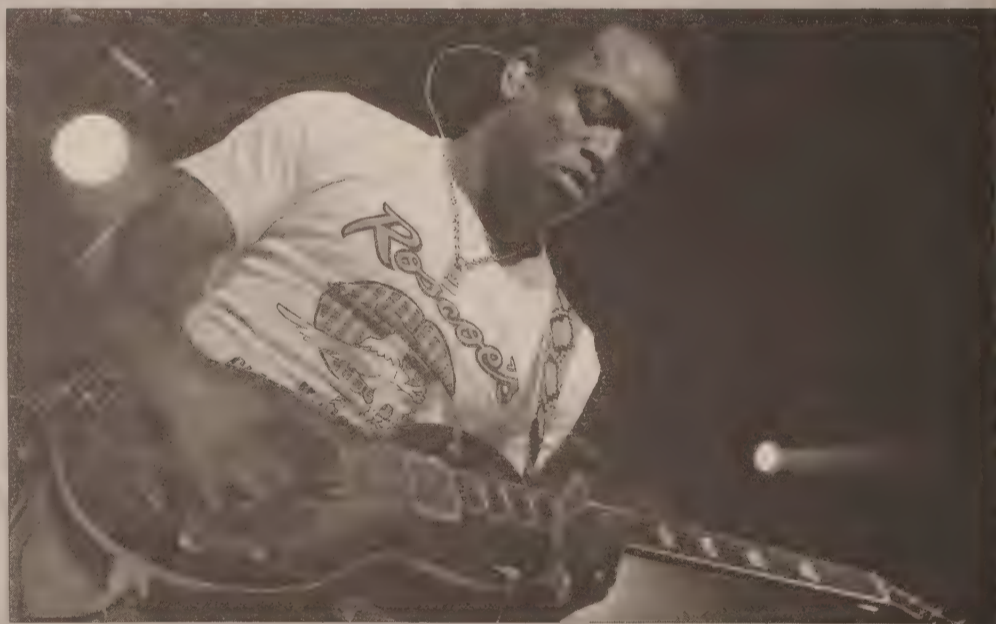
Last Saturday, the Roots came to Hopkins for the annual Spring Fair. The concert, held on the practice field adjacent to the Athletic Center, had generated a huge amount of buzz around campus, since the band's original and eclectic style appeals not only to fans of hip-hop but to music lovers in general.

The show was undoubtedly fantastic and managed to live up to the hype surrounding the event. Before the band actually stepped onto the stage, though, the weather ensured that everyone at the concert was subject to a pretty arduous experience.

Before the weather became an impediment, however, the audience witnessed an impressive set from a young band made up entirely of students. Somewhere, Anywhere Else, winner of this year's Battle of the Bands competition, opened for the Roots. The band typically performs music that falls within the alternative, power-pop genre, a far reach from the Roots' style.

As a result, much of the crowd wasn't exactly prepared for the poppy electronica that the opening band had to offer. Even so, the musicians performed very well and put on a good show. Funnily enough, the most popular song that they played was a cover of rapper T.I.'s "Whatever You Like," appeasing a crowd that came to the concert expecting a hip-hop show.

After the band finished their set, though, disaster struck. The skies flashed and within moments, torrential rain began. Initially, members of the audience thought they could outlast the rain. Soon, though, it became obvious that they couldn't brave the thunderstorm. Security and event staff ushered everyone off the field, and for half an hour the audience had to wait for the rain to abate. It



COURTESY OF DAVE MITCHELL

"Captain" Kirk Douglas, lead guitarist for the Roots, impressed the crowd with one of many fantastic solos performed throughout the night.

seemed, for the moment, as if the concert had been ruined.

After 30 minutes, though, the storm leveled off and stopped. The crowd rushed back onto the field, and within 10 minutes, the band was playing. Daman Bryson, also known as "Tuba Gooding Jr.," entered the stage first, bearing his Sousaphone (a type of tuba). The crowd went wild, and the show had begun.

If the wait was brutal, the reward was well worth it. The Roots delivered a spirited performance that pulsated with rhythm and

excitement. They played a continuous set for over 90 minutes, keeping themselves and the audience fully engaged.

During the set, each song seemed to blend seamlessly into the next.

While in some instances this might be considered a bad thing, it created a natural sense of unity that tied the entire concert together. The set became less a collection of songs and more a showcase for the band and its individual members, playing songs one-by-one but tying them together without pause.

Songs were chosen from a variety of the Roots' many albums, from *Things Fall Apart* to *The Tipping Point*. Many of the songs featured dark and political overtones, but it was hard for the sinister nature of a few tracks to subtract from the elation of the night as a whole. The momentum created by the rocky start and the band's enigmatic, neo-soul personality carried over throughout the set, and the feeling was definitely one of excitement and fun.

An emphasis on individual band members is a trademark of the Roots, and Saturday's concert was no different. Almost every member of the band had their own solo, with Tariq Trotter (otherwise known as "Black Thought") introducing each musician. Kamal Gray gave a phenomenal keyboard solo, while Owen Biddle tore up the stage on his bass. Bryson was more than happy to show the crowd his impressive skills on the Sousaphone.

Perhaps the most impressive moment, though, occurred when Questlove and F. Knuckles, the two drummers, faced off. Both percussionists displayed exemplary ability, and the crowd was

ecstatic to see the two drummers compete.

The show culminated in the performance of "You Got Me," a track that the Roots recorded with Eve and Erykah Badu, earning them a Grammy award. The vocals intended for women were performed by "Captain" Kirk Douglas, the guitarist. At this point, the audience was beginning to get tired, but after this track began to play, the crowd was reinvigorated for the last few minutes of the set. It was a fitting ending to a great show.

Looking around the crowd at Saturday's show, one wouldn't think that they would enjoy the hip-hop and jazz-influenced music that the Roots play so well. This testifies to two facts: first, at Hopkins, there is always more than meets the eye. A university full of engineers can contain a large number of music lovers. Second and more importantly, though, the eclectic crowd can attest the enormous appeal of the Roots' music. They are a unique band, and the show represented that well.

—Neel Pasricha



EILEEN HUANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

While some members of S.L.A.M. used props, others showcased their breakdancing skills.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

JHUT serves up another winner with *Spoon River*By CHRISTINA WARNER
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Sitting in the Merrick Barn while waiting for Johns Hopkins University Theatre (JHUT)'s production of *Spoon River Anthology*, one may have felt a certain sense of déjà vu. Similar to the most recent production of *Under Milk Wood*, the chairs were placed in a staggered fashion on the stage. The resemblance continued when the actors finally made their way on stage after a 20-minute sing-a-long with guitarist Ian Roush (Peabody Conservatory).

Other than simple superficial similarities, such as the use of the same denim skirts for the female cast members, there were even more similarities in the actors themselves. The majority of the cast starred in *Under Milk Wood* as well. This, however, is not particularly noteworthy as it is not unusual for Hopkins's students to reappear in multiple theater productions over the course of a school year.

However, it should be recognized that several of the actors seemed to inhabit the same types of characters that were portrayed in *Under Milk Wood*. Each play featured a close look at the people in a town and as such, each cast member portrayed multiple characters. As *Spoon River* progressed, there was a marked change in this typecasting among the actors. But in the beginning, it almost seemed as if I was watching slightly different version of *Under Milk Wood*.

These similarities aside, *Spoon River* was yet another of JHUT's fantastic productions. Through a fusion of music and storytelling, the play told the stories of individuals linked by the common bond of all being buried in the same cemetery.

With the exception of a few tombstones scattered on the stage, this plot didn't make the play unnecessarily macabre. Oftentimes, a character would reveal how he or she died, but even with that, the general tone was not depressing.

Instead, the more obvious



In *Spoon River*, Amy Morgan and Harry Laverty play a deceased couple that failed to feel the love when they were alive.

tone was a patriotic one. References to Abraham Lincoln infused the play with a sense of nationalism. This can be traced back to the origins of the *Spoon River Anthology* which was originally a collection of free-verse poems published in 1915 by Edgar Lee Masters. Masters focused on the lives and deaths of these previous inhabitants of Spoon River in order to focus on the heritage of our nation.

Much like an anthology would be organized, the play jumped around from character to character, intent on telling their stories or something particularly poignant about their lives. Each of the characters was painted in a relatively colorful light and their stories ranged from comical to pensive to the aforementioned patriotic tone.

The music that was either the central focus of the scene onstage or merely played in the background was one of the highlights of the play. The guitar by Roush was phenomenal, as is to be expected from a Peabody student, but even something as simple as

Mack Astin whistling the tune of a song was poignant. Every cast member sang as members of the chorus, but some performed impressive solos.

Kristina Madarang (sophomore) sang several remarkable solos; however, the most amusing one by far was a song she sang with Harry Laverty (sophomore). In the song, the two portrayed a married couple who were quibbling over the wife's suspicious actions, to which she always had an excuse and in doing so, concealed her affair. However, secrets can only be kept so long and eventually her husband found out, which led to her internment in Spoon River cemetery.

Christie Pridgen (junior) and Jenn Walton (freshman) shared a mainly a cappella duet that was perhaps the most powerful musical piece of the production. Walton's alto voice combined perfectly with Pridgen's voice to create a sensational song.

Other than her exceptional voice, Walton also proved her talent for portraying a wide

variety of characters without seeming repetitive. Both she and Robert Powers (sophomore) crafted characters that were far from mimetic representations of characters they had played in *Under Milk Wood*. Each time one of the two took center stage, it could be expected that the audience would encounter a personality that they had not seen before.

However, it was not the singular talent of a few actors in the ensemble that made *Spoon River* a success. It was, instead, the combined effort of the many actors that made this performance one worth watching.

While *Spoon River* seemed to be too similar to be debuted merely a month after the production of *Under Milk Wood*, JHUT continued their streak of remarkable plays. The simplicity of it was refreshing and the songs combined with the storytelling-esque delivery of dialogue created a powerful show. It was at once poignant and comedic, and it was the actor's talent that achieved this balance.

Eco-friendly Earth will dazzle but overwhelm

EARTH, FROM B3

The editing is spot-on and the sound is perfect. Actor James Earl Jones provides the voice of the narrator, and his deep, reassuring sound grounds the film and provides it continuity from scene to scene.

Every camera angle is fantastic and the documenters employ a variety of techniques that are impressive to the audience. For example, many scenes are shown in fast-forward, at rates much faster than real time speed. Such seamless execution of these scenes is indicative of a high level of dedication and expertise that surrounds every aspect of the film.

Thematically, though, the film encounters problems. A nature documentary should not contain an overarching, human-imposed theme, and it is because of this that *Earth* becomes bogged down in tiresome narrative quips and repetitive scenes.

Multiple references are made to the ever-increasing amount of ice caps that are melting every year, and the film is sure to

point out the implications of such an event. The very theme of the movie — migration and climate change — lends itself to a discussion on global warming. The father polar bear would not have been forced to scavenge for food so desperately if his environment had not been ruined. Instead of pointing the viewer towards the spectacles of nature, all too often the film points its own finger at the audience in accusation.

Perhaps it is telling that the film was released on Earth Day (April 22, 2009), a date on which groups worldwide attempt to raise awareness on environmental issues. Such an agenda is fitting in some circumstances, but its tone was not suitable for a Disney-produced film showcasing the wonders of nature.

The filmmakers could have created a documentary strictly about life on earth and the bad effects of increasing temperature would have been self-evident. As it stands, the imposed eco-friendly theme detracts from an otherwise jaw-dropping experience.



COURTESY OF CAREY BRYSON

A father polar bear grapples with melting icebergs in the documentary *Earth*.

NEW VIBRATIONS

ARTIST

Art Brut

ALBUM

Art Brut vs. Satan

LABEL

Downtown

RELEASED

April 21, 2009

Art Brut's future may be a cause for worry. Their sophomore release, 2007's *It's a Bit Complicated*, saw the Brits oddly by overproduction, sweet melodies and what seemed like a comatose effort on the part of bawdy lead man Eddie Argos, who had either stopped drinking or fallen dope-drunk for pop.

Art Brut vs. Satan may not be a leap in subject, but at least it smacks of a welcome return. Gone are many of *Complicated*'s trumpets and frills. Argos, along with the music, seems to have woken up; each track is fast, talky, punk-driven and, as with the first album, confident of its charm. This tends to manifest in Argos's trademark slurred one-liners.

As from the beginning, the humor is key. The last album may have been Brut at their catchiest, but it failed to rope the breadth of humor present in *Bang Bang Rock and Roll*. This isn't to say *Art Brut vs. Satan* is fully hysterical. Its underwhelming single, "Alcoholics Unanimous," sends a lazy buzz of guitars under a lazier chorus with a call and response from the band. The album's closer, "Mysterious Bruises," comes slower — the guitars with half-joking gravity — but at over seven minutes, it gets a little overbearing.

The songs, while catchy and

engaging, can suffer from a bit of quasi-punk redundancy. While the change in aesthetics brought the band closer to its old self, *Bang Bang Rock and Roll* still managed its energy with more diversity in composition and laughs. Nobody's trying to stretch the shadow of the first album, at least not consciously, but that's where the love originates — could they be resisted after promising "We're gonna write the song/that makes Israel and Palestine get along?"

The music world's enthusiasm for Art Brut may get its due nourishment from *Art Brut vs. Satan*. It's likely a good thing. Nobody's expecting an avant-garde opus, and a Christian detoxified Argos would defeat everything that makes them worth listening to. But the reality is that Art Brut may never match its initial charm. Hopefully, the band won't be the last to glimpse its novelty fleeing. If not, we aren't in for much else.

— Doug Ross



ARTIST

Metric

ALBUM

Fantasies

LABEL

.02 Records

RELEASED

April 19, 2009

Fantasies, Metric's latest studio album, may be just as catchy as some of the Canadian new wave indie-rock band's previous efforts, but sorely lacks their musical and lyrical complexities.

One of the better tracks on the album, "Help I'm Alive," keeps Joules Scott-Key's tight drumming in line with vocalist Emily Haines's electronically-enhanced falsetto. An additional clean bass line, courtesy of Josh Winstead and James Shaw's whining guitar riff, keeps the music fresh and dance-worthy, although frankly the nearly five-minute long track

loses steam somewhere around its halfway point. Metric tends to cling to winding, repeated lyrics; "Help I'm Alive," however, is not quite remarkable enough to keep the listener intently interested.

Another strong track is "Gimme Sympathy," a four-minute tale about change and past mistakes. Haines keeps the mood sweet and poignant with softer vocals, while the synthesized background melody provides a more upbeat hipster-club sound.

Though a couple songs offer some of the same rampant musical rush found on earlier Metric albums, the rest of *Fantasies* is devoid of old tracks' energetic excitement. "Twilight Galaxy," the fourth track on the album, tries to provide a soft respite to its more fast-paced predecessors, but ends up dragging on from the very beginning.

Haines whispers her vocals in an attempt to invoke an element of sad romanticism in the listener, but fails quite spectacularly, making the synthesized chorus seem shrill and forced rather than melancholic. More importantly, the melody is too soft and

the instrumentation too spread out, making the entire song feel tedious and generic.

"Stadium Love," the album's closing track, is another forced, uninteresting failure. Metric picks up the pace with hard-hitting guitar playing and manic drumming. However, odd backing vocals and Haines's repeated, shouted chorus rush the rest of the song, keeping the listener from enjoying the melody's frantic nature.

Earlier tracks, like *Live It Out*'s "Monster Hospital" and *Old World Underground*'s "Wet Blanket" featured the same energetic feel as "Stadium Love," but exciting lyrics and unique instrumentation prevented the listener from drowning in the vivacious vigor.

Metric has never been the most sophisticated or lyrically profound groups of its genre — it's often compared contemporary, fellow Canadian-based band Stars is generally considered the more complex and cohesive of the

two — but earlier albums like 2001's *Grow Up and Blow Away* and *Old World Underground*

meshed catchy soft-beat music and hooks with well thought-out lyrics that churned out some hits on indie radio stations.

The combination of Haines's commanding vocals and Shaw's electronically-enhanced guitar riffs, Winstead's bass playing and Scott-Key's unyielding drumwork has always led to enjoyable, dance-worthy music. *Fantasies* does offer some good tracks, but as a whole the album feels a little deflated, as if Metric's signature energy has been squeezed out. More importantly, nothing on the album seems like a progression from Metric's earlier efforts. Perhaps the next album will provide more pizzazz; it would be a shame for a band as great as Metric to lose its soul.

— Becca Fishbein



ARTIST

Booker T. Jones

ALBUM

Potato Hole

LABEL

Anti

RELEASED

April 21, 2009

Booker T. Jones was the organist and leader of Booker T. and the MGs, a talented soul instrumental band best known for the hit, "Green Onions." Dan Akroyd, in the character of Elwood Blues, once said that the band's music "can be equated with the great classical music around the world." What made the MGs special was not just the brilliance of their compositions or their indi-

vidual talents as players (though each member was a stellar musician in his own right). Instead, the strength of the MGs lay in their fantastic interplay: their ability to listen and to speak to each other through their instruments.

When drummer Al Jackson Jr. was shot in 1971, the group disbanded. Periodically, the surviving three come together to play gigs, sometimes as part of another musician's backing band. Their style influenced bands and performers as diverse as Isaac Hayes, Creedence Clearwater Revival and the Beatles.

Booker T. Jones wrote most of his new album by himself and performed it with a Southern rock band called the Drive-By Truckers. The laid-back quality of the MGs sound is missing here for most of the tunes, but the in-

terplay between instruments is as strong. The smooth sound of '60s R&B has been remade into some-

thing a little bit closer to country, but the soul and the rhythm have not been lost. The combination makes a band of its own with compositions that stand up beside, not against nor beneath the original works by the MGs.

The sound of the album could be compared to *Pendulum* by Creedence Clearwater Revival. Released soon after the Revival finished a tour with the MGs, *Pendulum* took their swamp-rock sound in a bluesier, more soul-like direction, with the songwriter John Fogerty incorporating

keyboards and new techniques into the work.

Here, Jones arrives at about the same place from the opposite direction by throwing his lot in with the Drive-By Truckers. The Trucker's guitar is thicker than Steve Cropper's sparse guitar licks ever were, the drumming is less laid-back and more of a

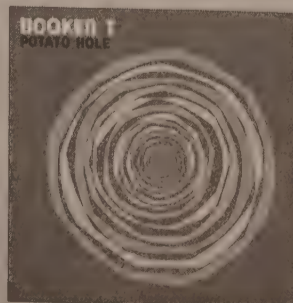
pushing force, and the bass acts as a counterbalance to the melody provided by the guitar picker and Jones's organ. The new grouping of musicians is different from the original MGs, like Vanilla Coke is different from Coca-Cola; it has a distinct and welcome taste, but not one meant to take the place of

the original.

Warm optimism and a sense of musical playfulness to rival Bach's have not left Jones's fingertips, and his playing is in top form. Especially pleasant to hear are "Reunion Time," "Space City" and the wonderful cover of "Hey Ya," which leave the listener with the feeling of just having eaten comfort food but without the worry of calories.

The mesmerizing effects of the instruments, so vital in past pieces like "Melting Pot" by the original MGs, surface again on this album, and a song like "Get Behind The Mule" is almost capable of hypnotizing those who hear it. This album would be recommended for those who like music that is as soulful as it is pleasant on the ears.

— Alex Neville



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Summer months promise plenty of culture

School may be on hold, but the art world is not. Here's how to experience culture wherever you may be this summer

By **SAM ECKSTEIN**
Staff Writer

So you didn't get an internship. Don't sweat it: Haven't you heard that it's a rough economy? Besides, you're not alone. In fact, you're in good company — look no further than the above byline for proof. This is an opportunity. Rather than spending your few months of freedom pent up in a cubicle or buried in a filing cabinet, you can spend them enjoying all that summer has to offer. Here's how:

Go local

Start by venturing out into Baltimore beyond Charles Village. On the weekend of May 8, take a break from studying and check out the Maryland Film Festival. The Charles Theatre will be showing about 50 movies and dozens of short films.

Some highlights include a premiere of the new documentary *PoliWood* by Baltimore native Barry Levinson. Another famed Baltimore director, John Waters, picks one film every year to be shown at the festival. This year's selection is a French musical, *Love Songs*.

Just two days after school is officially over, on May 16, hop on bus 27 (it can be found just down the block from Paper Moon Diner) and head to the Pimlico Racetrack where you will join 100,000 others for the 134th running of the Preakness Stakes, the second leg in the Triple Crown. Although the Maryland Jockey Club reversed the long-standing tradition of BYOB in the Pimlico infield, the Preakness is still an event that is not to be missed. Did I mention ZZ Top will be performing?

Even though vacation will have begun and Hopkins may be the last thing you will want to think about, show some school spirit the following weekend and cheer on the Blue Jays in Boston at the NCAA men's lacrosse championship (this only applies if the Jays do in fact make it to the big game). The semifinals are held on May 23 and the championship will be held on May 25.

At that point, even the biggest sports junkie may need a break from stadiums and crowds. No better way to escape than to go to a byside wine festival, especially a small, unpretentious one in its second year that is attended mostly by locals.

Lucky for us, the Chesapeake Bay Wine Festival will be held less than an hour away from campus in Stevensville, Md. on the weekend of May 30. The festival will host 20 Maryland wineries, along with some musical performers, food vendors and artisans. \$50 will get you one day's access to all the festivities and wine samples your heart can desire.

Although the FFC, Nolan's and Charles Street Market will remain open, those who will be in Baltimore over the summer may want to find some dining alternatives. As the mercury rises on thermometers across the city, people go out in droves to the city's farmer's markets.

Waverly Market on 32nd Street, just a few blocks east of campus, is the most convenient, but the Baltimore Farmer's Market under the Jones Falls Expressway is definitely worth the short trip on a Sunday morning, if not only to enjoy the irony of buying farm fresh food directly under an interstate.

Perhaps the highlight of summer in Baltimore is Artscape, the largest free public arts festival in the country. On the weekend of July 17, artists of all stripes — photographers, musicians, fashion designers, dancers, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and others — will gather for one magnificent weekend of art for the sake of its celebration. As much as you love Charm City, you will need to get out, even if only for a weekend or two.

Get out of town

For decades, summer has been a time for college students to descend en masse onto otherwise tranquil farms to alter their state



COURTESY OF [HTTP://ANSWERS.COM](http://ANSWERS.COM)

Preakness Stakes combines horse racing, music and booze for a Baltimore event that is worth the short trip to the Pimlico Racetrack.

of minds and listen to music. These gatherings can be found all over the country nowadays. These are some of the standouts:

Bonnaroo, the jam-band-heavy festival in Manchester, Tenn. will host a wide assortment of musicians such as Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, Wilco, David Byrne, Girl Talk, along with many others, including the genre-favorite, Phish. Held on the weekend of June 12, the festival will also feature comedians, visual and performance artists and lots of sideshows to keep the crowd busy between sets.

While many of the festivals feature the same artists and attract many of the same people, each festival has its own niche. Both the Bonnaroo and All Points West line-up includes the Beastie Boys, Yeah Yeah Yeahs and MGMT.

On the shore of the Hudson River, situated directly across from lower Manhattan and Brooklyn, All Points is sure to attract throngs of hipsters to the Garden State on the weekend of Aug. 1, especially with its indie rock-laden lineup which includes the National and Vampire Weekend.

New York can be unbearable in the summer. On certain days, when the asphalt feels like it is melting, it's clear why there is an annual exodus to the Hamptons and other beach towns. On other summer days though, the city's culture comes alive. Bryant Park in midtown Manhattan shows weekly outdoor film screenings.

Manhattanites who failed to escape the sweltering pavement set up picnics in the park and, oftentimes in the beginning hours before the movie begins, eat and drink until the unbearable heat turns into a pleasant summer breeze.

Another summer tradition in the Big Apple is Shakespeare in the Park. From June 10 through July 12, *Twelfth Night* will be performed in Central Park by a cast that includes Anne Hathaway (*Rachel Getting Married*).

If you're in the city between June 13 and 19, be sure to head downtown for the third annual NYC Food Film Festival, a revolutionary concept that divinely fuses this author's two favorite things in the whole world. Not quite sure what a food film festival is? A quote from the festival's blog should give you an idea. "We have films about Peeps, Clam Pie, Cranberries and Honey Bees among others. And we are also screening our first-ever food horror short film."

July Fourth

The biggest summer event of all is of course July Fourth. Wherever you are in the USA, you will find an Independence Day celebration. Situated in Baltimore though, Hopkins students are in a position to make this a truly memorable

birthday. Our nation's capital, less than an hour from campus, is home to the National Independence Day Parade and a stirring fireworks show over the Washington Monument and the Capitol.

That's tough to beat, but there is one Fourth of July celebration that just might give it a run for its money. This is the Annual Gettysburg Civil War Battle Reenactment. Held on July 3, 4 and 5, the reenactment celebrates the anniversary, not just of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, but also of the Battle itself.

The three-day jamboree includes five historically accurate battles, "A Fashion Show — 1860's Style," an inside look at high-level staff meetings with

the Confederate generals as they plan for the Battle of Gettysburg, Civil War era religious revival services and scores of other events.

Disappointingly, there won't be fireworks. Instead, on the night of July Fourth, there will be a reenactor's camp dance with the Second South Carolina String Band, "one of America's best Civil War Bands," according to the organization's Web site.

So whether you are in Baltimore for pleasure or for the burden of summer classes, returning to your hometown or fastidiously working a job or summer internship, don't forget about the abundance of events the art world has in store over the summer months.

SLAM stuns audience with polished hip-hop moves

SLAM, FROM B3

action, every pointed word had a motion that imitated it, and the dances as a whole mirrored the songs to which they were dancing.

The dancers themselves were just as enjoyable to watch as the dances they were doing — they each performed, in a way, to match the varying styles of the music. While there were many different levels of dancing, they were grouped well, and there did not appear to be any weaker dancers detracting from the dances as a whole.

The group is co-ed and no prior dance experience is needed to join. However, the two hours of rehearsing per week certainly have helped every member hold his or her own during the events at which S.L.A.M. performs every school year. Judging from the reception of the performance on Friday night, these practices have been able to yield exciting routines and energetic dancers.

When large groups performed, the dances were impressive and enjoyable, but the smaller numbers were the most incredible parts of the performance. There was a tango number, where four couples danced. The choreography of this and other small group dances was fascinating as they combined individual talent with some group work as well. One of the tango couples danced last Thursday outside the Mattin Center during the culture fair. The routine was well received there as well, but on Friday night it was even more impressive with three other couples dancing alongside them.

There were some dances that began with four guys doing impressive, athletic dancing. These moves continued to shock the audience. Finally, a group of girls came on the stage as well. The two groups would always inter-

act well and in different ways. These moments — sort of choreographed battles of the sexes — were humorous and enjoyable. Every move that showcased a certain athletic finesse was entertaining; one of the four guys even jumped over another person while he was standing up. This "intense leap frog" and the other dancing was just a precursor to the final group, however.

By the final few numbers, the Hopkins Break Dancers had stolen the show. With their unbelievable maneuvers and unique connection with the audience, they generated the most applause out of any of the other dancers. Their scene was choreographed with three guys who held umbrellas and another three break dancers sans props. When each of the break dancers took the stage by himself, the audience erupted. Watching them balance upside down on one hand and spin around, seeing how they could move their feet so quickly and witnessing all the rest of their physically demanding performance was incredible to watch. Their number even ended with a choreographed fight in slow motion.

The S.L.A.M. showcase was a fun way to kick off Spring Fair (after the fireworks). The audience had fun, the dancers had fun, and it was definitely a successful performance. Their attempt at an encore, however, was a little stalled. As the audience began to get up and leave, the curtain opened once more, revealing a group of dancers who began to dance again. Some audience members left, while others seemed to consider sticking around but decided against it. Out of those who chose to stay, a few were called up to dance as well. As students at Hopkins prepared for the end of the semester, S.L.A.M. provided a nice forum to acknowledge that it is always possible to dance the stress away.

Informers A-list cast fails to deliver flawed film

By **SANDHIRA WIJAYARATNE**
Staff Writer

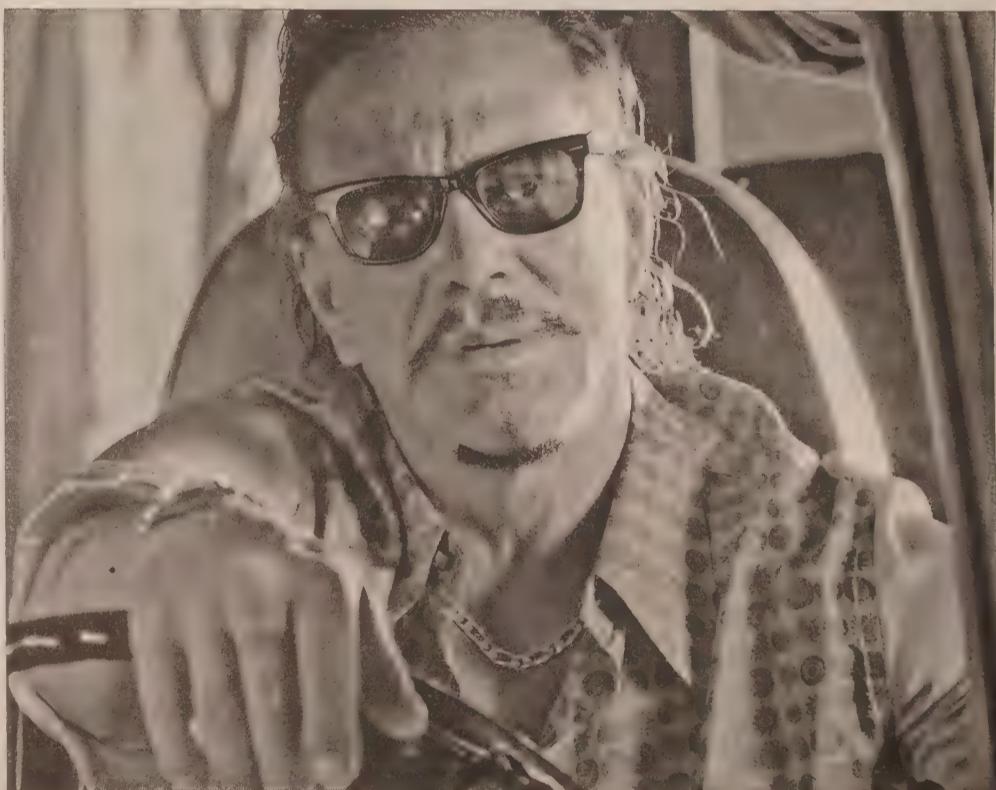
The Informers captures its audience with a glittery, colorful and erotic atmosphere where morals don't exist, cheating is prevalent and orgies are the preferred kind of sex instead of the occasional indulgence. But it is too glittery and too blinding, like the sun if it were one mile away instead of millions. The film goes excessively out of its way to create such a strikingly incomprehensible picture that even the Lindsay Lohans and Paris Hiltons of the world would not be able to live in it, let alone understand it.

The plot centers on the lives of a handful of individuals from Los Angeles. Most of them are well-to-do, upper class, rich, successful and thus, intoxicated with all the problems stereotyped with their famed Hollywood status: drugs, divorce, adultery, power and money. Billy Bob Thornton plays a movie producer and Kim Bassinger stars as his dilapidated, cut-up but still whole, wife.

Their son Graham (Jon Foster) provides the link between his family and his friends, the youth of the movie and the propagator of all the problems. Graham's best friend is secretly sleeping with his mother (Bassinger) before her movie producer husband (Thornton) moves back in after the end of his pursuit of a female television anchor, played by Winona Ryder. This is just one of the many far-fetched situations that *The Informers* puts forth.

The movie also tells the tale of a couple of lower lives: a convict kidnapper (Mickey Rourke) and his scared adult nephew. Their lives, too, are greatly exaggerated. Rourke's mysterious criminal past and his connections are very ambiguous, and his character again plays in the movie's scheme of hyperbole when he kidnaps a kid on a bike in broad daylight.

The ace of spades of the cast was a coked-out, pedophile rock star (Mel Raido), whose band gives the movie its name. The ridicule of his character can be seen in just one scene: He returns



COURTESY OF [HTTP://ACESHOWBIZ.COM](http://ACESHOWBIZ.COM)

Mickey Rourke, a member of the star-studded cast of *The Informers*, plays a dark role as an ex-con with his sights set on kidnapping.

to his hotel after a concert to find an underage girl in his bed and starts making out with her for a few seconds before subsequently choking her and then punching her face.

The big names of the cast would seem to indicate a blockbuster that would garner a lot of acclaim. Thornton, Bassinger, Rourke and Ryder all have shined in very good roles. But this movie had none of them. In re-courting the new anchorwoman, Thornton's character tells Ryder's, "I've missed you sweetie." That line alone was convincing enough that Thornton was unable to adequately fulfill the role he was cast as.

Bassinger's troubled housewife character was played relatively well, but the role was still somewhat unbelievable, as she basically gave her husband permission to leave and cheat on her again. Ryder gave a pretty good performance, but by far the best actor in this film was Rourke. His Wrestler character makes a

reappearance as a shady ex-con, a weathered but experienced and menacing criminal who bullies his nephew into harboring him, his drugged-up female assistant (Angela Sarafyan) and the child he kidnapped.

The film had potential. Writer Bret Easton Ellis has created the screenplays for several successful films, which includes cult classic *American Psycho*. His previous works have centered on shallow characters with no forms of positive influence and the characters in *The Informers* is no different. Perhaps it is director Gregor Jordan's touch that has such detrimental effects to what could have been good film.

The movie's overall theme was the downfall of immorality. Everyone here does something that society deems as wrong, whether its cheating, abusing power or having multiple sexual partners (at once). In the end, all of this immorality creates each character's loss.

The movie's theme was no-

ble, but the film itself was very bad. The plot was so convoluted and herky-jerky that the audience often will not know exactly what is going on. Almost everyone in the movie owned a pair of Ray Ban sunglasses that were always on their faces, their significance unexplained and questionable.

The fact that the majority of the characters were unclothed or having sex for the majority of the film made it seem that the audience was watching a porno rather than the advertised drama. The theme was good, the cast was very solid, but the story and the movie ultimately fail.

Stay away from *The Informers* unless you want to see a poorly delivered X-rated movie that was accidentally rated R. The theater was pretty empty, so you could probably get away with pursuing other activities while watching. But then again, why spend money if you aren't going to be watching the movie anyway?

YOUR NEWS-LETTER

Top 10 Beach Essentials Countdown

Whether you're hitting the beautiful white sands of the Caribbean this summer or visiting Charles Village's own "beach" at MSI, circle, don't leave your beach house or dorm building without these essentials.

10. Sunglasses

Look cool and protect your eyes from the sun's glare. They're especially great if you've sipped a few too many pina colodas the night before.

9. Sunscreen

Skin cancer and premature aging aren't worth the extra tan (or burn!) Don't slack off when it comes to applying sunscreen.

8. An iPod

Or, if you want to go old school, carry a boombox.

7. Watermelon

A traditional beach food you can only get in the summer. Seed-spitting competitions are also in order if you indulge in this fabulous fruit.

6. Flip flops

Sand in your sneakers is never fun. Neither are sock tans.

5. A Frisbee

Stretch your legs after months cramped in D level. Playing Ultimate frisbee is definitely the way to go!

4. Stylish hat

... bordering on comical. Straw hats are classic and bathing caps are practical, but you could totally rock the pirate hat look.

3. Trashy magazine

Forget the heavy text books. Summer vacation is all about mindless yet entertaining magazines.

2. Friends

Can't live with 'em, can't mooch free hotdogs without 'em.

1. Swimsuit

Don't forget it at home. Neither your friends nor the fish will appreciate it.

— Leah Mainiero

ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

Living it up in Baltimore and beyond

I remember just a few months ago I was sitting in my suite on the verge of an existential meltdown as a vision of the end of my college career flashed before my eyes.

Now, in the blink of an eye, I am one-fourth of the way closer to the end of college, that much closer to financial independence and impending doom.

It's time for my final column of the year. I could write about how stressful exam period is, but I'd rather do what I'm best at and distract others (and myself) from doing their schoolwork. I will thus leave you with a few entertaining, practical but completely unconnected thoughts to keep you company during the doldrums of finals and beyond.

First thought: Finding housing in Charles Village is a nightmare.

Second thought: Craig's List is amazing. Craig's List is the place where miracles happen. I placed an ad on Craig's List and within 15 minutes was connected with a lovely, normal sub-letter. The Hopkins housing Web site was less helpful, taking my information and storing it in what I can only imagine is a very sad server somewhere out in cyber space.

Third thought: When you are avoiding studying by going on Facebook, keep in mind that people who put childhood pictures of themselves as their profile picture are insecure. Putting a cute picture of yourself on Facebook with a caption of "Wasn't I sooo cute?" still falls under the "compliment-begging" category.

While your friends may compliment you on the fabulously cute little sundress you're wearing in your picture, this completely negates the purpose of Facebook, which we all know is to stalk old summer camp buddies and see how they turned out. Nothing is creepier than going on Facebook to stalk your fellow camper and finding a pic-

ture taken the summer that you were at camp (they never get older...).

Fourth thought: Don't forget to resell your books to Barnes and Nobles, especially if you're just going to let them gather dust in your closet.

Fifth thought: Here is a list of useful things to buy with your remaining dining dollars: soap, ketchup, mustard, all the condiments, condoms, light bulbs, extension chords, note cards, mascara and umbrellas.

Sixth thought: Here is a list of useless things to buy with your remaining dining dollars: the entire Burt's Bees rack and milk.

Seventh thought: If you are looking for a few useless but entertaining ways to spend your free time:

1) Go to New York City and try to find the Cash Cab, 2) Go to several banks, take photographs of the vaults and when someone asks you what you are doing, start bawling and tell them they could never understand you. 3) Hitchhike to Forks, Wash. and look for Edward Cullen, 4) Pre-order Mandy Moore's new CD:

Amanda Leigh, 5) Buy a VCR on the cheap and start a VHS library, but only buy VHS tapes whose titles start with S.

Eighth thought: The Rotunda movie theater closed. The Senator is closing. You're going to have to go to the Inner Harbor for your next movie night.

Ninth thought: Remember to return your library books. However, if you have had your outstanding item for more than three months, they have already stopped charging you, so you may as well keep it, you will be paying the fine anyway and you have definitely earned the BBC version of *Pride and Prejudice* by this point.

Tenth thought: Ultimately exams are not worth stressing over. It's a couple hours of your life and when it's over, it's summer vacation! So remember, rays today, reasons tomorrow, and make it a good one.

Finals are nigh, my friends, and let's face it: We are getting desperate. Spring Fair is over. Students across campus are locking themselves in their rooms, or worse yet, D level.

Everything else is on hold. Laundry? Pants don't need to be washed until someone can smell you before they see you. Grocery shopping? Ten pounds of Ramen should do the trick. And when you don't have time to cook them, you can even eat them dry, like chips. Sort of gross, but this is finals. Finals require a total war effort (oh, that phrase would work well on your history exam...).

Sadly, for most of us this means we haven't had the time to figure out what on earth we're doing during the summer after finals (if such a life exists). Do we go home or do we stay in Baltimore?

Luckily for you, I've procrastinated just long enough to come up with a few criteria you should consider before ritualistically burning your textbooks and whipping out last year's bikini. So snuggle up with your Ramen and smelly jeans, and do a little soul searching!

Living with the family

Chances are I haven't met your family, so deciding whether or not living with them is a good idea is pretty much up to you. It may be that nothing beats spending time with parents, siblings and Fluffy and eating someone else's cooking for a change. This summer could be the time to catch up with all your friends, cruise around your old haunts and feel young and carefree again.

On the other hand, life with the parents lacks certain perks that staying in Baltimore does. Beer before noon is probably out. Questions about those grad school applications are probably in. Sibling rivalry can get pretty nasty when you get your spring semester grades. You may want to ask friends, both from here and from home, to see what they're doing. By the time you find out that everyone you know is in Costa Rica

and Fluffy has left a hairball in your shoe, you may wish you had checked this out beforehand.

Fun things to do around Baltimore

As much as we complain about it, Baltimore actually has some really great things going on in the summertime. Summer means tourist season, which means the Inner Harbor and other hot spots whip out the best deals and seafood. A free summer schedule gives you time to check out those highlights you're always meaning to get to, like the Everyman Theatre, American Visionary

Art Museum and, of course, our beloved National Aquarium (might I suggest the shark exhibit). Baltimore

is also a great starting point for some serious day trips to D.C. and Ellicott City.

This argument on behalf of Baltimore falls through just a tad for those who already come from amazingly cool places. Students coming from L.A. and NYC may be somewhat unimpressed with the wonders of the Baltimore skyline. For those of us who hail from the suburbs, though, that Domino's sign on the horizon may be your best bet for a true summer adventure.

Jobs and internships

Maybe the most important and certainly the most practical concern about the summer is finding a job or internship, or both. Considering the economic climate, your choice about where you want to spend your summer may be limited by location. Before making a decision, make sure that you'll have something to do. Three months of sitting on the couch watching reruns of *The Office* may sound amazing now, but trust me, by July, Dwight is only going to frighten you. Plus, you'll be out of cash. The Career Center is a great resource for people looking for jobs and internships.

Consider these three things, and your chances of having a great summer will increase by 67 percent. Once you're done, get back to work. You really can't afford this many study breaks.

your Horoscope



Taurus: (April 20 - May 20)

Going to class has its perks! Get up for that 9 a.m. class this week and you may be rewarded with a hint about your final exam.



Gemini: (May 21 - June 20)

To err is human, but for her to forgive you, you've got to earn it! If she's mad, buy her flowers, if she's sad, spring for the chocolate.



Cancer: (June 21 - July 22)

Your mom's calling to iron out family vacation plans. Be prepared with a swimsuit ... or a list of excuses.



Leo: (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Classes can be dull. This is your week to learn to take notes with your left hand or to go pro as a professional pencil twirler.



Virgo: (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

Can't resist that sunny weather? Don't forget that sunblock or you'll turn as red as a lobster, or crab if you prefer.



Libra: (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

Replace your normal morning drink with a double shot latte from Cafe Q and you'll make it through the day without dozing off.



Scorpio: (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

A night out is definitely in your future. Wait? Finals? What finals? They can wait a week. But that party can't.



Sagittarius: (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Day is for studying, but spend the night on a date with a special someone. But make sure they're the one paying!



Capricorn: (Dec. 23 - Jan. 19)

In my opinion, you've got to get out and enjoy the weather before it's too late! Spend a day out on the Beach and get a little fresh air.



Aquarius: (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

The hot girl you've been talking to is totally into you! Don't let the school year slip away without at least giving her a call!



Pisces: (Feb. 19 - March 20)

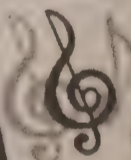
Sun and surf! That's what it's all about for you this summer! Take your friend up on his roadtrip invite and hit the beach.



Aries: (March 21 - April 19)

Sometimes it's best to step back and think about the important things in life: Get your summer plans in order this week!

Your Tracks



Summer is the time to lay back, relax and listen to some great tunes. So for your next summer roadtrip, roll down the windows, crank up the volume on your stereo and make sure you've got these songs on your playlist:

1. "(More Bounce In) California" by Soul Kid #1: This is a perfect song to blast when driving with the windows down. Sure, you'll probably look like a tool, but it's almost worth it.

2. "Wouldn't It Be Nice?" by the Beach Boys: A summer playlist isn't complete without a throwback to the original kings of "fun in the sun" music.

3. "Bruises" by Chairlift: If the weather isn't enough to get you in a good mood, then let Chairlift do it for you.

4. "Tick Tick Boom" by the Hives: Summer weather means less clothing. It's a fact. So, while you're getting in shape to have the perfect beach body, get sweaty to this excellent workout jam.

5. "Cities in Dust" by Junkie XL: A cover of Siouxsie and the Banshees' original masterpiece, this song will have you ready to dance within the few electro-pop beats.

6. "The Way I Am" by Ingrid Michaelson: Consider this the soundtrack for your summer romance. 'Nuff said.

7. "This Is the Place" by the Red Hot Chili Peppers: It is a pretty safe assumption that buried in the Chili Peppers' discography, there is a song for each and every emotion a person will ever feel. This might capture some of those end-of-summer ones.

8. "Hysteric (Acoustic)" by the Yeah Yeah Yeahs: This song is remarkable. When the sun goes down and the mood mellows, this is the song to match the chill atmosphere.

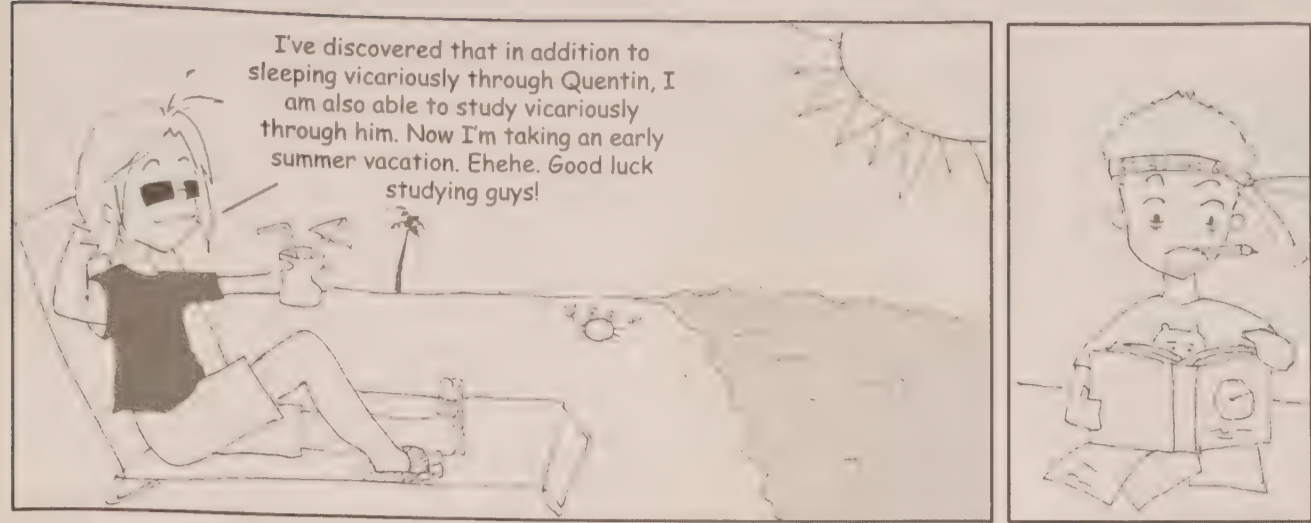
9. "Here Comes the Sun" by The Beatles: One of *Abbey Road's* finest, the inclusion of this song in the summer playlist rests in the appropriateness of the title.

10. "Bohemian Like You" by the Dandy Warhols: It can be a hit or a miss with the Warhols, but this one definitely makes the cut for a great summer tune.

— Christina Warner

CARTOONS, ETC.

Quentin and Sam



By Jane Yee

FLU: Language Pandemic continues to Spread

Cases have been reported high and low, only a few confirmed, of a pandemic devastating cities and countryside alike. Everywhere, people are shouting “flu” in an apparent panic as things continue to escalate.

Be warned, this virus appears to be spreading everything: from the news to the internet, to newspaper articles to people’s mouths. Be sure to wear a mask at all times, as well as to cover up the screen of your computer/television — only read newspapers with your eyes closed (this will also help to avert them from the horrendous writing not affected by this horrendous new strain — if only it were). FLU

Research is currently in the works to uncover just what lies behind the spread of the disease. Some suspect idiocy, others panic and lack of proper dis-tribution of wealth, some simply say that it is a product of a patriarchal society — still no word from the noted Biomedical Engineer. But as researchers in Bethesda at the Centers for Disease Control continue to sit on their hands and investigate the properties of avian flu, it seems that nothing can be said for certain in the near future. The World Health Organization has only created convenient charts (see the rather bland one below).

Jeremy Bremer
Kierkegaard's Smile

While they busy their hands with trivial endeavors, the rest of us are suffering. FLU, here, FLU everywhere: It is taking over lexicon as the days go by. There have been cases sighted as far away as Israel that this word is being integrated into the language. Even the seemingly impenetrable United Kingdom efforts to repel this barreling linguistic force have proved futile.

FLU, FLU, FLU was heard emanating from an apartment window in Madrid this afternoon. The issuer of the phrase went sent directly to the local hospital — no word on his condition.



- Mexico: 149 dead — 26 confirmed cases of people shouting “Gripe”
- United States: 40 confirmed cases
- Canada: 6 confirmed cases: “Flu, Eh?”
- UK: 2 confirmed cases, both members of the literati (Influenza, not Flu dammit, Influenza)
- Spain: 1 confirmed case: “Gripe” (pronounced with a notable lisp)
- Israel, Brazil, Australia and New Zealand: suspected cases being tested

It’s spreading everywhere—we need help! GRIPE (without lisp) GRIPE (with notable list) FLU FLU GRIPE (without lisp) FLU FLU FLU GRIPE (with notable list) FLU, EH? GRIPE (without lisp) GRIPE (with notable list) FLU, EH? FLUNSA. INFLUENZA. GRIPE (without lisp) GRIPE (with notable list) FLU, EH? FLUNSA. INFLUENZA. INFLUENZA. GRIPE (without lisp) GRIPE (with notable list) FLU, EH? FLUNSA. INFLUENZA. GRIPE (with-out lisp) GRIPE (with notable list) FLU, EH? FLUNSA. INFLUENZA. GRIPE (without lisp) Damn you CDC! GRIPE (with notable list) Stupid Bethesda masturbators with your anthrax FLU, EH? FLUNSA. IN-FLUENZA. GRIPE (with notable list)FLU, EH? FLUNSA? Help!!! We’ll all be multilingual soon!

Beatrice “Bea” Arthur

By Jessica Shiao



Saumya Gurbani
Pun Intended

Swine flu ... never thought I'd see the day pigs fly.

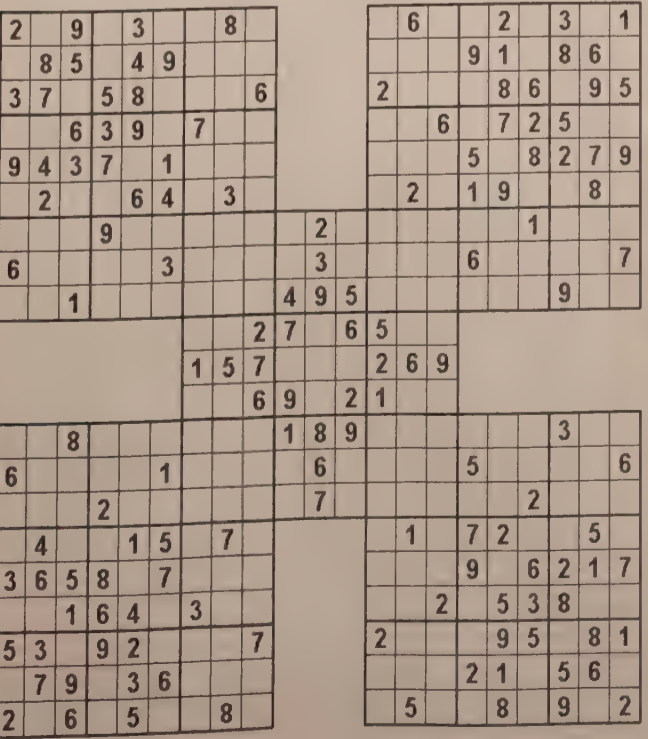
It's been a year's worth of quality wisdom ... hope reading this wasn't too much of a pun-ishment for you ...

Last Week's Reader's Cartoon

Congrats to Fuad Muakkassa!

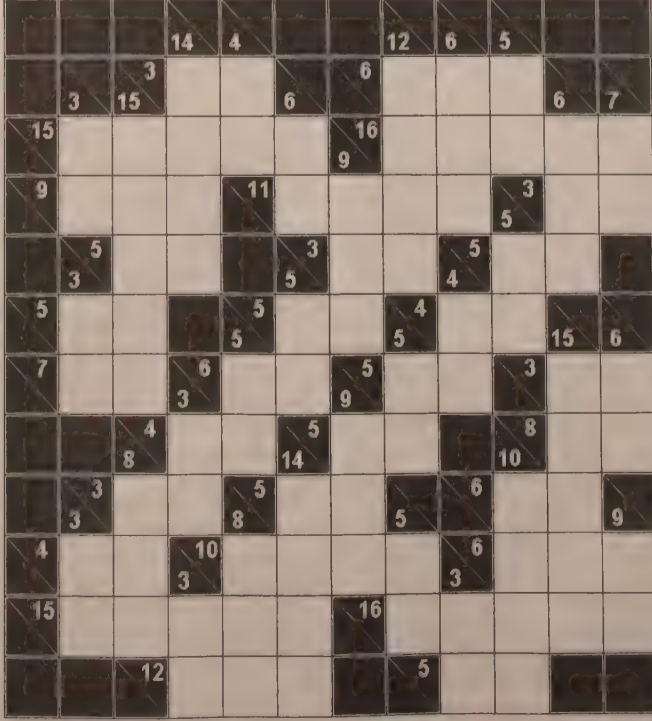


Challenging Sudoku(s)

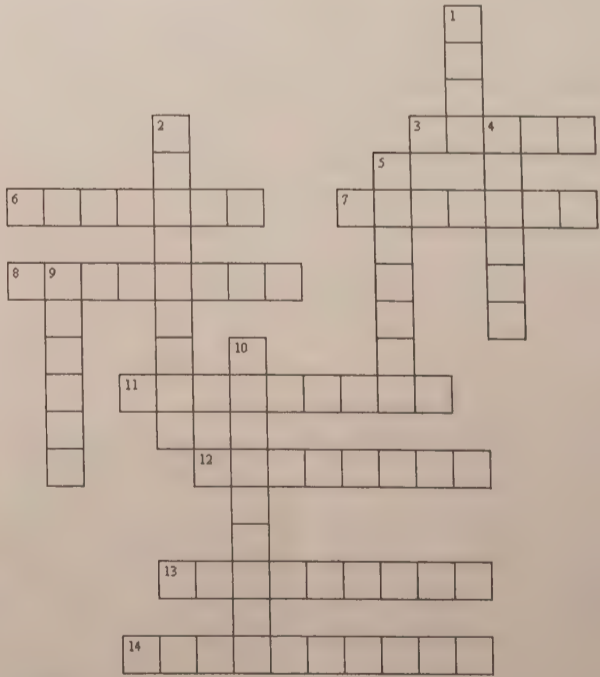


Kakuro

Medium Difficulty



News-Letter Crossword



ACROSS

- 3 ___ gliders: cute creatures now sold at Spring Fair.
- 6 ___ Festival celebrated the literary arts.
- 7 Next president of Bayview Medical Center.
- 8 ___ vaccines make vaccine paths easier to track
- 11 ___ Fellowship is awarded to Hopkins student for the first time.
- 12 Sunglasses based on Inuit eyewear.
- 13 Raised \$12,500 for diabetes.
- 14 Controversial clean-burning alternative to gasoline.

DOWN

- 1 Group that plans to address sexual assaults on campus.
- 2 X-Men sequel coming out this summer.
- 4 Maker of the 2007 independent film called "The Graduates".
- 5 Theater that now reads "The People's Theater".
- 9 Former Ugandan child soldier.
- 10 Current location for many departments once in Gilman.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Probes capture 3-D images of solar explosions

By JEFFREY SIEGEL
Staff Writer

Researchers using data from NASA probes have discovered that a certain type of solar storm looks like a croissant! NASA's Solar Terrestrial Relations Observatory (STEREO) probes, a pair of spacecraft tracking solar weather, are allowing scientists to track the speed, trajectory and 3-D shape of solar explosions, known as coronal mass ejections, as they leave the sun, improving our ability to forecast solar weather.

"Coronal mass ejections (CMEs for short) are solar 'hurricanes' that erupt from the sun's surface and spew billions of tons of plasma into space at speeds of thousands of miles per hour," said Kristi Marren, public affairs representative for the Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL).

"Aside from creating auroral lights, when these massive storms hit our atmosphere they can disrupt satellite communications, GPS and cell phone signals and can cause power outages or blackouts," Marren said.

As a result, tracking solar weather is crucial; If we know when these disruptions are likely to occur, we can manage them

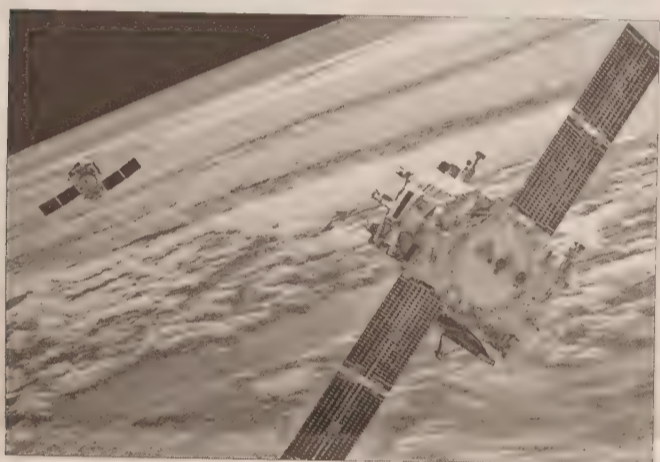
more effectively and be more prepared for their arrival.

Angelos Vourlidas, a researcher at the Naval Research Lab who developed the croissant model for CMEs, said, "Before the STEREO probes, measurements and the subsequent data of a CME observed near the sun had to wait until the ejections arrived at Earth three to seven days later. Now we can see a CME from the time it leaves the solar surface until it reaches Earth, and we can reconstruct the event in 3-D directly from the images."

From this reconstruction, he realized that CMEs are shaped like a series of twisted magnetic fields, fat in the middle and thin on the edges — in short, a croissant.



Coronal mass ejections, explosions of the sun's atmosphere, carry disruptive magnetic fields toward Earth. COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.NASA.GOV



The STEREO probes, launched in 2006, capture images of solar storms in real-time. COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.NASA.GOV

Got the sniffles? Maybe it's spring allergies

By ALEENA LAKHANPAL
For the News-Letter

As the flowers bloom and the grass turns green, many of us find ourselves sneezing and sniffing, miserable with springtime allergies. As winter draws to a close, trees, grasses and weeds start releasing pollen and spores into the air, which we then breathe in and which our bodies try to sneeze out.

Many people are born with the genes that give them increased sensitivity to allergens. However, actually developing reactions to certain allergens, like sneezing in response to pollen, depends on several other factors, such as how long and to what extent you have been exposed to the allergens.

When people without allergies breathe in pollen, they can breathe it out without any problems. However, when someone who has that gene attributed to allergies breathes in pollen, his body sees it as an invader and begins to attack the pollen by producing massive amounts of antibodies.

"You inherit the ability to become allergic, which means that from your grandparents and parents, you inherited the ability to produce too much of the protein IgE," said Peter Creticos, medical director of the Hopkins Asthma and Allergy Center.

These IgE antibodies then bind to a certain type of white blood cell known as a mast cell. This bond causes the mast cells to release chemicals that produce the symptoms we so commonly complain about: watery eyes, hives, runny noses and painful sinuses.

One of those symptom-producing chemicals is histamine, which causes increased mucus secretion. You've probably heard of antihistamine drugs which combat allergy symptoms by blocking the release of histamine.

Sadly, allergy season is not only limited to spring. Many people suffer throughout fall and summer as well. It depends high-

ly on geographic location, local plant life and other environmental factors such as pollution and temperature.

Here in Baltimore, Hopkins students find themselves sneezing because of airborne ragweed in the early fall. According to *Forbes*, Baltimore ranks as the 41st worst city for allergies in the U.S.

With allergies being such a widespread and long-lasting problem, researchers are investigating preventative medicines and treatments that may permanently turn off the pathways that lead to runny noses and itchy eyes.

In terms of over-the-counter drugs, one can only treat the symptoms of allergies temporarily. Allergies can be remedied in numerous ways, including bronchodilators that enlarge the airways for easier breathing, antihistamines that prevent sneezing and itchy noses and leukotriene antagonists that curb the sniffles.



People with spring allergies have an immune system that overreacts to the invading pollen. COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.MABTECH.SE

According to Vourlidas, the twisted shape of CMEs makes sense. "CMEs get started as twisted ropes of solar magnetism. When the energy in the twist reaches some threshold, there is an explosion which expels the CME away from the sun," he said.

This model, along with the vantage point offered by the STEREO satellites, allows improved forecasting of solar weather. "We believe we can now predict when a CME will hit Earth with only three hours of uncertainty, a four-fold improvement over older methods," Vourlidas said.

The STEREO probes are a pair of spacecraft placed at different vantage points, one ahead of the Earth in its orbit around the sun and the other lagging behind. These two different vantage points are what allow for the 3-D images to be generated, much like how having our eyes in slightly different positions on

our faces gives us the ability to perceive depth.

However, the probes have to be aligned just right to make sure the data is consistent over time. "APL spacecraft experts are helping STEREO scientists reconstruct 3-D imagery, collected by the spacecraft, by very accurately pointing the spacecraft and reducing its jitter or movement," Marren said. From the reconstructed images, scientists can track a CME's shape, velocity, mass and trajectory from when it leaves the surface of the sun to when it reaches Earth.

Knowing these factors improves our ability to forecast when a CME arrives, but not what it will do. For that, the contents of the CME need to be known. The effects of solar storms depend on how much plasma they contain and on the strength and orientation of their magnetic fields, not only on their shape. For that, new satellites will be needed, ranging from new space-based observatories to probes that would approach the sun's surface and actually enter emerging CMEs.

Nevertheless, STEREO still has a role to play. Its probes will continue to track the sun on opposite sides, and may even directly encounter CMEs, allowing scientists to observe a solar storm as it travels through space.

"We plan to analyze a number of CMEs that are directed to Earth or one of the STEREO spacecraft and quantify the improvement in predicting when the CME will impact [Earth or STEREO] by using our 3-D information," Vourlidas said.

New synthetic nanoparticles improve on drug delivery

By ANN WANG
Staff Writer

Researchers at the Hopkins School of Medicine have demonstrated that a type of man-made microscopic particle can be much more effective at delivering drugs or gene carriers for gene therapy to the lungs of cystic fibrosis patients than any other existing therapy.

Cystic fibrosis (CF) is an inherited genetic disease that mainly affects the lungs and digestive system. Individuals with CF have a single amino acid mutation in a protein responsible for transporting chloride ions in and out of cells.

As a result, the mucus that normally forms along the inner lining of the lungs becomes abnormally thick. This sticky, difficult-to-expel mucus can become a breeding ground for bacteria that cause lung infections.

Because drugs, such as corticosteroids, which are used to treat lung infections, can have severe side effects in other parts of the body, it would be ideal to deliver drugs locally to only the lung lining, or epithelium, where they are needed. Unfortunately, the sputum that builds up in the lungs blocks drugs from reaching the epithelium, where they can take action.

However, the work done by the Hopkins research team has brought an effective drug delivery system one step closer to realization.

"We demonstrate for the first time that synthetic nanoparticles can be engineered to rapidly penetrate the CF sputum barrier," said Jung Soo Suk, a graduate student in the Department of Biomedical Engineering and the lead author of the study.

The scientists created nanoparticles coated with polyethylene glycol (PEG), commonly used in skin creams and laxatives. "PEG is able to prevent particles from sticking to the sputum gel, which allows the

particles to move in the watery pores present in sputum and quickly penetrate the sputum layer," Suk said. A PEG coat allowed particles to move up to 90 times faster than uncoated particles of the same size.

The scientists were also able to construct a 3-D view of the sputum by studying the transport rates of different sizes of PEG-coated particles. They found that the pores in sputum are 60-300 nm in diameter, and particles that are 200 nm in diameter can move very rapidly through the sputum and effectively deliver the drug.

This work is the first to show that synthetic systems can . . . efficiently penetrate human [cystic fibrosis] mucus layers.

—JUSTIN HANES, CHEMICAL ENGINEERING PROFESSOR

"The gene that could cure CF has been known since 1989, yet no one has ever been cured of this devastating disease," said Justin Hanes, a professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and the senior author of the study.

"We have been studying methods to allow synthetic systems to more readily penetrate human mucus barriers for many years, but this work is the first to show that synthetic systems can be designed to efficiently penetrate human CF mucus layers," he said.

The next step in the study will be to test the PEG coated nanoparticles in animal models and in human patients.

"To translate this technology into the clinic, we are currently developing biodegradable analogues of these coated particles, where the particles will break down into safe by-products in the body after releasing the loaded drugs," Suk said.



Nanoparticles effectively penetrate lung mucus layers. COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.JHU.EDU

Maternal antibodies increase autistic behavior

By SAM OHMER
Staff Writer

When you think of "tolerating" a baby, images of enduring sleepless nights, changing diapers and wiping mashed sweet potatoes off the ceiling usually come to mind. However, when a woman becomes pregnant, the idea of fetus toleration is taken to a whole new level. Our immune systems are designed so that our bodies produce antibodies that attack anything that is foreign, such as bacteria, viruses or tissues.

But for most expecting mothers, the fetus, which is indeed foreign because of the presence of the father's DNA, is not rejected. The mother's immune system compensates so that the fetus is not attacked by antibodies and can be carried to term.

Unfortunately, sometimes this fetus-protection immune response goes awry. Hopkins researchers previously found antibodies that target the brain tissue of fetuses in mothers of children with autism.

Autism is a neurological disorder characterized by impaired social interactions, difficulties communicating with others and unusual or repetitive behaviors, the direct causes of which are still unknown.

This finding has caused this same team, led by Harvey Singer, director of Pediatric Neurology, to test a promising but not entire-

ly well-evidenced theory: Certain antibodies, which are passed from mother to child across the placental wall, attack the fetus's brain itself, and may lend a hand in the development of autism.

In a paper appearing in this month's issue of the *Journal of Neuroimmunology*, Singer and his colleagues determined that these autism-positive antibodies are sufficient to produce at least some of autism's characteristic behavioral patterns in induced-autism mouse models.

When injected with antibodies from mothers with autistic children, expectant mouse mothers had pups that exhibited increased levels of anxious behavior, hyperactivity, increased ease by which the animal could be startled by loud noises and decreased sociability.

On the other hand, for expectant moms that were not injected with antibodies, or that were injected with antibodies from mothers without autistic children, the mouse pups behaved much more normally compared to the experimental group.

Not only did the team discover that the behavioral changes were more pronounced in the mice injected with the antibodies of the mothers of autistic children, but the team also found that the course of the disorder's development followed a similar pattern to that seen in the human disorder:

Symptoms intensified as the mice aged. This is similar to the clinical progression of autism, in which a child will develop normally until a certain point, when regression usually begins to occur.

Unfortunately, it is overly tempting to assume that these antibodies are the direct cause of autism-spectrum disorders, just because they seemingly contribute to the development of certain behavioral patterns.

However, this is probably not the case. In a more likely scenario, autism is the result of several confluent factors, including but not limited to abnormal immune responses, environmental factors, genetic influences etc.

This finding does, however, further demonstrate that certain maternal antibodies do cross the placenta into the baby's environment, and that these antibodies seem to play a role in the development of the disease, possibly through induced inflammation of the brain and subsequent cell death due to a faulty immune response.

Further research is needed to determine which proteins or brain regions are affected by these antibodies, as well as to see whether these antibodies can be blocked. This may eventually lead to the ability to inhibit their transfer from mother to offspring, decreasing the risk of the child developing an autism-spectrum disorder.

Fungus endangers U.S. bat colonies

By NICOLE ANGELI
Staff Writer

Bat populations along the east coast of the United States have been declining sharply in recent years, most likely due to a mysterious fungus.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service placed a moratorium on human activities in caves as of March 26 in 17 states, which are home to bats with a deadly and poorly understood condition which has been termed White-Nose Syndrome, for the characteristic white fungus that grows on the noses of infected bats.

White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) causes up to 90 percent mortality in some infected caves, and overall more than a 75 percent population decline over two-year periods at infected sites. This translates into the death of hundreds of thousands of bats. First recorded in upstate New York during the winter of 2005-2006, WNS has spread quickly, infecting caves from Vermont to Virginia.

In addition to being transmitted from bat to bat, the infection has been spreading between caves that are geographically isolated from each other in a pattern known as "leapfrogging," which suggests cavers may be aiding the transmission of the disease between caves. This hypothesis is further supported by the fact that many of the infected caves are popular caving sites.

The fungus that has been collected from bats presenting with symptoms was first described in October 2008, but more research is needed to correlate the fungus to the deaths, as well as produce a timely solution in ending bat demise.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has expressed concern that research efforts in natural caves will merit more risk than helpful results for bats. Scientists in Wisconsin have been replicating cave conditions to determine the experimental rate at which the fungus is transmitted from cave to cave and bat to bat.

Cave condition replications are currently a good alternative to performing research in natural caves when research into devel-

oping human and environmental disinfectant protocols have not yet been standardized.

The cave closures, which are intended to stop the spread of the disease, are being practiced in close collaboration with the caving community. The National Speleological Society, a prominent caving organization, and other local caving groups have mobilized to raise funds, increase public awareness and keep people out of caves to give hibernating bats a fighting chance when they emerge this spring.

Hypotheses that explain the aggressive spread of WNS suggest that affected bats may become predisposed to the disease because of insufficient fat

with WNS have been observed staying in cave areas which are several degrees colder than the normal hibernation space, dangerous during the long winter when energy needs to be carefully conserved.

Furthermore, this type of fungus, of the *Geomyces* genus, normally thrives in colder environments, exacerbating the bats' condition. Scientists are not yet sure what makes the fungus so lethal to these bat colonies. Some have hypothesized that a combination of environmental and biological factors are at work.

Most of the bats that have been afflicted by WNS die from starvation, which suggests that the fungus causes the bats to expend



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Brown bats with White-Nose Syndrome perish during hibernation from starvation.

reserves for hibernation, caused by poor summer feeding and the bio-accumulation of agricultural pesticides. These factors decrease immune system strength and make the bats much more susceptible to the fungus.

Bats present with symptoms that include average body weight reduction, emaciation of white and brown fat reserves, flying during the day and moving to colder areas of the caves in which they hibernate. Bats

too much energy during the hibernation period.

Bats are crucial to their ecosystems for their roles in pollination, seed dispersal and insect control. As the second-most diverse mammal in the world, bat populations have evolved to fulfill a range of ecological community functions.

For now, a challenging puzzle remains to solve the mystery of White-Nose Syndrome causation and determine the most effective treatment for bat colonies.

Scientists use parasite sex to fight disease

By ANUM AZAM
Magazine Editor

Sexual preferences in people are hard enough to explain. Some members of our species are only in the mood if certain objects are present, or if they're in very specific environments. Others can't be bothered without having been persuaded by a complex series of events occurring immediately prior.

The deadly parasite *Leishmania* has been found to have a vigorous capacity for genetic exchange as well, but only when in the gut of an insect known as the sand fly. How's that for a peculiar fetish?

Leishmania are the parasites responsible for the disease leishmaniasis, in which the parasites migrate to vital organs of their human host. There are half a million new cases of leishmaniasis each year, along with 60,000 deaths, mostly in India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sudan and Brazil. It is the second-largest parasitic killer in the world, after malaria. Even if you treat leishmaniasis before it kills you, you're still likely to end up with giant sores, blindness and a severely enlarged spleen.

In a research article published in *Science* earlier this month, scientists from the National Institute of Health (NIH) and the Washington University School of Medicine have shown that sexual reproduction in leishmania is possible in the sand fly vector, which opens up possibilities for being able to use genetic approaches to study the parasites and develop ways to fight leishmaniasis.

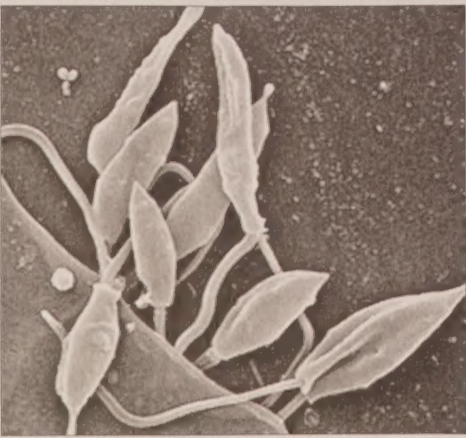
"*Leishmania* have long been known to reproduce asexually, and our findings only reveal that sexual reproduction is possible," said David Sacks, a co-principal investigator in this study from the Intracellular Parasite Biology Section of the NIH.

Although cloning is the primary method of reproduction in *leishmania*, scientists have long suspected that *leishmania* can have sex. However, their reproductive patterns have been difficult to observe until now, and not because they're shy.

"Genetic exchange was not observed experimentally before because sex seems to only occur in the sand fly vector, and there are very few [laboratories] in the world that have sand flies," Sacks said.

The reasons for the fact that sexual reproduction only seems to occur in the belly of the sand fly are still mysterious, but it seems that the parasite must be in a particular stage of development in order to engage in gene-exchanging activities, and that this stage occurs only in the fly.

The hope is that the offspring of milder strains and more harmful strains of *leishmania* will help scientists identify the genes that give *leishmania* the ability to cause severe infection and make leishmaniasis such a deadly disease. The implications of this research will also lead to the development of methods to fight leishmaniasis, both through vaccines and



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Leishmania parasites spread via bites from infected sand flies.

drugs.

"The practical applications of the findings . . . open the door to the possibility of using classical genetic approaches to identify the genes controlling certain virulence traits, such as the ability of some parasite strains to produce fatal, disseminated infections in visceral organs, while others are confined to the skin," Sacks said.

"The identification of the genes and their products that are responsible for severe disease can lead to the development of better drugs or immunotherapeutic vaccines."

New brain scans reveal the mechanisms of task-switching

By DEANNA CHIECO
Staff Writer

Throughout an average day at Hopkins, a student needs to switch between many different tasks. Students switch their attention from a professor to their computer screen, or from completing a statistics problem set to composing an eight-page essay on World War II. The brain is able to quickly make these shifts in attention to carry out different behaviors.

In a paper published in last month's issue of *The Journal of Neuroscience*, researchers from the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences determined the answer to the previously unanswered question of how these attention shifts occur.

Previous to the study, two theories of task-switching existed. The first hypothesized that each part of the brain that controls specific types of behaviors has its own mechanism for transitioning between behaviors of the same type, known as domain-specificity.

On the other hand, it has also been suggested that there is one universal mechanism that allows for cognitive switching in any type of task. The researchers were able to determine that this type of task-switching mechanism, known as domain-independence, is the one responsible for our ability to shift our attention between several different activities.

In order to test these two models, subjects were shown stimuli on a screen while a functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) machine revealed the ac-

tive areas of the brain.

The research team, led by Stephen Yantis, a professor in the Psychology department, tested how the brain shifted between different types of number categorization and visuospatial attention.

The letters "L" or "R" cued the subject to attend either to the left or the right of the screen. Other letters then cued the subject to categorize a number, which was displayed on the specified side of the screen, as low versus high or even versus odd. These activities allowed the lab to measure which brain regions were active during these task shifts.

In particular, a region called the medial superior parietal lobe (mSPL) was found to be active during the task shifts in both number categorization and spatial attention.

In previous studies, the mSPL has been implicated in cognitive control, but this study is the first to demonstrate that the mSPL controls attention shifts and number categorization shifts when the two types of shifts are being performed simultaneously. Thus, this data suggests a domain-independent mechanism of cognitive control, in which the mSPL is able to initiate shifts in both attention and rule tasks.

However, the domain-specific hypothesis cannot be entirely negated. The Yantis lab observed other specific neural regions within the mSPL whose activity was specific to each type of task. These neuron subpopulations might be part of a preparatory mechanism of task-switching that leads to the subsequent mSPL response.

Tornados and sharks: Science careers off the beaten path

By AMY DUSTO
Staff Writer

Graduation happens, and we're all suddenly launched into that cold, harsh reality, also known as "life." And many of us face that dreaded question: What are you going to do with that science degree?

If you're tired of the conventional, here are some extreme science career choices to consider. In this job market, it might even be wise to jump off the paved road. Below are the basic ins and outs of two wild 'n crazy science professions: tornado chasing and shark wrangling. Risk-takers read on.

Storm Chaser

Often with little or no warning, storm chasers are called to travel where the weather screams, following extreme meteorology. Though usually thought of as only chasing tornadoes, professional storm chasers can go after any type of severe weather, ranging from lightning to hurricanes.

Tornado chasers are most active during the spring and early summer in the heart of North America. While most people duck and cover in the refuge of

storm shelters, chasers, by car or truck, pursue the deadliest weather seen.

Most storm chasers are amateurs, using their own equipment to document or study natural phenomena. Professionals, however, usually conduct government or academic research, or provide the public with storm coverage in the form of documentaries.

One of today's most famous names in storm chasing is Warren Faidley, an extreme weather adventurer, bestselling author, journalist and storm chasing celebrity. As he makes apparent, a storm chaser must be multifaceted — able to do great work but also have the ability to market the results.

Though storm chasers face death on the job, there are sometimes weeks of inactivity between major storms. When the lightning strikes though, chasers must be on the scene with the thunder.

Shark Wrangler

The daily tasks of a shark wrangler might go like this: embark on scuba expedition, catch a shark, transport shark to aquarium research and/or nap. Rinse and repeat. Physically rough, al-

ways exciting and actually quite in demand by aquariums and private parties, such as filmmakers or eclectic billionaires, shark wranglers are the cowboys of the sea.

While there are no college courses available on how to catch a shark, marine biologists and other natural scientists may find the marriage of the wrangling experience with their research interests the best way to have an exciting career. "It is fun when you are solving a mystery in the lab, but for me, the real fun is in the water," professional shark wrangler Ken Moran, says on his website.

A good place to start is to become a certified scuba diver, then study up on the different species of sharks — each type of shark behaves differently in the water, and knowing how to face a particular shark can de-

termine whether the wrangle is successful or not. A prudent idea would be to spend some time in an aquarium diving with sharks before hitting the water.

As well as the actual catching of sharks, wranglers conduct research on various shark species, give talks and lectures and advocate for shark and natural resource conservation. Because few scientists have the guts to undertake a profession where *Jaws* is more of a reality than a fantasy, shark wranglers are in high demand and get several opportunities to participate in feature films and documentaries.

But before you submit that resume, keep in mind that these types of jobs are for adrenaline-addicts only. So on graduation day, after all the caps have hit the ground, where are you going to be?

Cancerous tissue derived from a single cell

By BARBARA HA
Staff Writer

Recently, researchers at the Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center have discovered that prostate cancers that have spread to other parts of the body all come from a single cancer cell in the prostate.

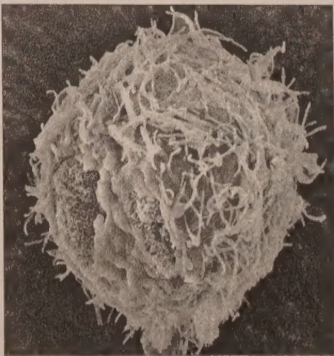
Cancer is caused by mutations in an individual's DNA, and these mutations come in many varieties, such as deletions or additions of DNA bases. Cancer-causing mutations can also take the form of "copy number changes," where the individual has more or less than the normal two copies of each gene. Cells with copy number variations have the potential to grow and divide uncontrollably, cancer's trademark.

If cancerous tissue is left unchecked, it has the tendency to spread to other parts of the body in a process known as metastasis. Cancer cells from the original cancer site break off, travel

through the bloodstream and arrive in new areas in the body where they take root, forming new cancerous sites.

The Hopkins researchers took samples from 94 different cancerous sites in 30 men who had died of metastatic prostate cancer. This study took place over the span of 14 years, as researchers dissected every single piece of cancerous tissue and analyzed it, in both the original site in the prostate and the metastatic sites, totaling around 30,000 blocks of tissue.

Researchers compared the DNA of metastatic cells to that



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One cell is the source of cancerous tumors.

of the original cancerous cells, looking for differences in copy number and individual nucleotides.

The metastatic cells had a shared pattern of copy number defects, meaning that all of the tissue samples had the same

variations from the normal two copies of each gene. From this, the researchers were able to conclude that most, if not all, of the metastatic cancer cells are clones of a single cell in the prostate.

When the copy number variations were compared between different subjects, they found that there were many common gains and losses in several parts

of their genomes. Although the exact region in which DNA was gained or lost varied between individuals, all of these variations were found in the same general region.

Scientists hope to use these findings to be able to eventually determine the specific genomic features of primary cancer cells that have already proven to be lethal.

A database of the various genetic features of cancer cells in different individuals and groups could potentially allow physicians to tailor cancer treatments specifically to each patient, based on the genetic signatures and diversity of their cancer cells.

Although the single-cell origins are not the only contributing factor to metastatic cancers, additional research in this field may eventually lead to a more effective targeting mechanism for treating existing cancerous tumors.



COURTESY OF [HTTP://WWW.WORDPRESS.COM](http://www.wordpress.com)
Storm chasers must be able to respond quickly to any weather anomalies that arise.

SPORTS

Men's lax defeats Towson, Mount St. Mary's

By MIKE PORAMBO
Staff Writer

In one of the most exciting games of the season, the #6-ranked Blue Jays walked off the field of Unitas Stadium at Towson victorious after four grueling quarters and two overtime periods. With just 7.2 seconds left in the second overtime period, senior midfielder Brian Christopher dodged into the middle of the field, spun past his defender and bounced in a tough shot for his third goal of the day and his second career overtime game-winner, to beat Towson 11-10 in a game in which the Blue Jays were never leading. The win brought the Jays' record to 7-4.

Towson had control the first three quarters until Hopkins decided to take charge. Facing a four goal deficit in the third quarter, back-to-back goals by junior attackman Chris Boland and sophomore attackman Kyle Wharton cut the Tigers' lead to two, to make it 8-6. Towson beat junior goalie Michael Gvozden with just 2.8 seconds left in the third quarter, heading into the fourth quarter, Hopkins faced a 9-6 deficit.

Less than two minutes into the fourth quarter, the Jays' comeback began. Senior midfielder Mark

Bryan beat Towson goalie Rob Wheeler from six yards out, cutting the lead to two. After eight scoreless minutes, junior midfielder Steven Boyle fired a pass to senior attackman Josh Peck, who one-timed it past Wheeler. Hopkins finally tied it up 70 seconds later when junior mid-

sively during the overtime periods, but Gvozden once again proved to be the better man. With just about a minute to play, Gvozden came up with two huge back-to-back saves. After a successful clear and a wide shot out of bounds by Wharton, Christopher took the ball with 7.2 sec-

They traveled back to Baltimore victorious, by a score of 12-5, led by Boland and Wharton. Wharton scored four goals and Boland added six points with two goals and four assists. With the win, the Blue Jays improve to 8-4 overall, and the Mountaineers fall to 5-9.

The Jays took a quick 2-0 lead off of goals by Boland and Peck in the first six minutes, from nice passes by Christopher and sophomore Mark Goodrich, respectively. The Mount didn't quit, though. They tied the game up at two apiece over a six minute span, and at the end of the first quarter, the game was tied.

Mountaineer goalie T.C. DiBartolo played remarkably well, stuffing the Jays for the first 10 minutes of the second quarter. Mt. St. Mary's held a one-goal lead for a bit in the second quarter.

After letting that one get past him, Gvozden stuffed the Mountaineers for the rest of the quarter. Late in the quarter, the Jays scored two goals back-to-back in a 19 second span and never had to worry about trailing again. Wharton ended the 21 minute drought and Boland ripped a shot past DiBartolo just 19 seconds later. Heading into halftime, Hopkins held a

4-3 lead. It was 7-5 at the end of the third. Less than two seconds in, Kimmel found Christopher alone and he fired in a shot from 12 yards out. The Mount responded with a goal of their own, but Wharton beat DiBartolo again and Christopher beat him again just two minutes later.

The Jays ended any hope of a fourth quarter comeback by scoring three goals in the first six minutes of the period. Wharton and Peck each added another, and Boland hit junior midfielder Max Chautin with a nice pass, who fired it home. Wharton added another one late, and freshman attackman Will McCance finished the scoring for the day, making the final score 12-5, bringing the Jays' record to 8-4.

The game would have been a complete rout if not for the impressive performance by Mt. St. Mary's goalie T.C. DiBartolo, who posted 15 saves before leaving the game with nine minutes to go.

The Jays look to continue this five game win streak in their final regular season game vs. Loyola. The game will be at Homewood Field on Saturday at 1 p.m. The following week, the NCAA lacrosse playoffs begin, for which the Jays will most certainly qualify with a winning record and quality wins as well.



EILEEN HUANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Senior captain Andrew Miller looks to clear the ball. Miller has helped lead the Jays to an 8-4 record.

fielder Michael Kimmel found the back of the net. Towson responded just 32 seconds later with a quick goal, but Christopher scored his second of the day with 2:12 remaining, which proved to be the overtime-forcing goal. Both goalies played impres-

sively during the overtime periods, but Gvozden once again proved to be the better man. With just about a minute to play, Gvozden came up with two huge back-to-back saves. After a successful clear and a wide shot out of bounds by Wharton, Christopher took the ball with 7.2 seconds left and ended the game. The four-goal comeback win was their first since March 18th, 2005, when the Jays erased a 7-1 deficit to Syracuse.

Final	
M. St. Mary's	5
Hopkins	12

Baseball wins three during weekend games

By JEFF ZHU
Staff Writer

On the Friday of Spring Fair weekend, the Hopkins baseball team destroyed McDaniel at home 26-10, and played a doubleheader against Haverford on Saturday, winning both games.

The game against McDaniel was over from the start, as the Blue Jays offense dominated, scoring 11 runs in the first inning alone. In the inning prolonged by two McDaniel errors, the Jays collected six hits and four walks, including a three-run homer by Ryan Biner. McDaniel starter Brian Rosato was only able to retire two batters before exiting the game.

The score was 18-0 Hopkins, before the Green Terror had a mini scoring spree of their own in the fifth. McDaniel scored seven times in the inning off Marco Simmons, including a grand slam. The game continued on with more scoring, as the Blue Jays featured a

homer off Hopkins starter Chez Angeloni. The Jays were kept off the scoreboard until the fourth inning. With two runners on, Jesse Sikorski cranked a three-run homer off starter Stefan Pappius-Lefebvre, to give Hopkins a 3-1 lead. In the sixth inning, Lee Bolyard padded the lead with a solo homer to left field, extending the lead to 4-1. Each team added a run in the seventh, and the game ended at 5-2 Hopkins. Angeloni pitched a great game to earn the win, going all seven innings, giving up two runs over four hits and two walks, striking out six.

In the nightcap of the doubleheader, the Jays offense struck early on. Dan Merzel and Todd Emr got on base with singles, before Brian Youchak unloaded a three-run homer to right, off Haverford starter Ben Regan. Hopkins starter Dave Fioretti retired the top of the order with only three pitches. The Jays got back to work against Regan in the second inning. Sikorski led off the

second with a solo homer. John Swarr was hit by a pitch and subsequently scored on a Dave Kahn double, putting Hopkins up 5-0. Haverford got on the board in the bottom of the second inning, when Jeremy Zoll knocked in Charlie Carluccio with a single. In the third inning, Louis DeRosa came in to score on a Dean Lagnosky single and Merzel throwing error. Carluccio drove in a run, to push Haverford closer. Haverford tied the game in the fourth inning, Jake Kaden leadoff the inning with a homer, to pull Haverford within one. DeRosa subsequently drove in Chris Dooley on a squeeze bunt, tying the game at five. Ryan Biner gave Hopkins the lead again, with a solo homer to left field. The Blue Jays added two more insurance runs for an 8-5 lead.

The lead was in jeopardy in the seventh inning: Carluccio and Lagnosky executed a double steal, and came around to score on Zoll double, cutting the lead to one. Fioretti was relieved by Greg Harbeck. Harbeck went on to retire all eight batters he faced, to preserve the Hopkins win, 8-7. Fioretti got the win, pitching six and one third, giving up seven runs over ten hits. Harbeck pitched two and two-thirds innings for a long save.

The Jays improve to 21-13, and finished at 13-5 in Centennial Conference play. Hopkins secures a number two seed in the Centennial Conference Tournament, hosting F&M on Friday.



DANIEL LITWIN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Senior Dan Schifner pitched three innings in Friday's win

CALENDAR

FRIDAY
M. Tennis vs. Washington - 11 a.m.
Baseball vs. F&M - 3 p.m.
SATURDAY
W. Tennis vs. Haverford - 11 a.m.
M. Lax vs. Loyola - 1 p.m.



DANIEL LITWIN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
The Jays torched McDaniel with 26 runs on Friday, including 11 in the first inning.



LAURA KRANISH/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Junior Mike Yuan runs through the water pit during the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

Junior Laura Paulsen takes 10th place at Penn Relays

By ERIC GOODMAN
Sports Editor

The men's and women's track teams had a busy yet successful run this past weekend. Both teams sent runners to the world famous Penn Relays in Philadelphia, and the Shippensburg Invitational, also in Pennsylvania. Both meets served as a final qualifier before next weekend's Centennial Conference Championships.

For the men at Shippensburg, senior Adam Waddell finished third in the pole vault for the top Hopkins finish on the day with a height of 4.55 meters.

Junior Jonathan Walker placed sixth in the finals of the 200-meter run at 23.17, while Andrew Henry was the top Blue Jay in the 400-meter race at 53.77, good for 17th place.

Sophomore Elliott Wehner placed ninth in the 800-meter run in just under two minutes with a time of 1:59.98. Fellow sophomores Brandon Hahn and Derek Cheng finished back-to-back at seventh and eighth in the 1,500-meter. Hahn ran a 4:08.21, while Cheng finished in 4:08.83. Freshman Mickey Borsellino took 10th place in the 5,000-meter with a time of 18:00.00, and classmate Jacob Kramer earned 14th place with his 110-meter hurdle time of 16.71. Kramer also placed eighth in the 400-meter hurdles at 58.14.

Junior Peter Li took ninth in the shot put with a 14.02 meter throw, and placed ninth in the discus with a 40.24 meter throw. Ted Heron would lead the way for Hopkins in the javelin throw at 45.14 meters.

At the Penn Relays, the men's 4x400-meter relay team consisting of Christopher Tait, Pierre Hage, James Walker and Gordon Mack placed second in the 4x400 meter relay as part of the Pop Haddleton MAC Division, finishing fourth with a time of 3:24.79.

The women's track & field also performed well at the Shippensburg Invitational, highlighted by junior Alexandra McMillan winning the 10,000-meter run for Hopkins in a time of 44:11.86, while her twin sister Nadia came in sec-

ond at 44:22.42.

Senior captain Paula Osborn started the day off with a third place position in the prelims for the 100 meter dash in a time of 12.78. Osborn also finished fourth in the long jump with a 5.43 meter leap.

Rachel Hogen took home 10th place in the 1,500 meter run with a time of 4:57.54. Teammate Christina Valerio ran a 5:03.04 to place 13th in the same race.

Sophomore Anita Mikkilineni placed seventh in the prelims in the 100 hurdles at 16.55 before eventually finishing eighth in the finals with her time of 16.91. Mikkilineni and freshman Stephanie Amalfé tied in the high jump, both with 1.40 meter jumps. Amalfé would also go on to throw 10.70 meters in the shot put for ninth place, and seventh in the discus at 33.82 meters.

Freshman Kat Baselice placed fifth in the 3,000-meter steeplechase, finishing at 12:50.93, and sophomore Logan Ashcraft tied for seventh place in the pole vault after her 2.89 meter vault.

The Lady Jays had six athletes representing at the Penn Relays. The 4x400-meter relay team finished second in the Centennial Conference/MAC division of the event.

The team clocked in at 4:01.88 to place second. Paula Osborn, Jackie Ferguson, Stephanie Chung and Jordan Ireton made up a team that came within .68 seconds of the school record.

Senior Emma Hiza finished 22nd in the college women's division of the 10,000-meter run. Hiza ran the 10,000-meter in a time of 37:58.93.

Junior Laura Paulsen broke the school record in the 5,000-meter run. Paulsen competed in the Olympic developmental division of the 5,000-meter run, placing 10th in a time of 16:50.75, which shattered the previous school record of 17:15.88, which Paulsen set in 2007. Paulsen also broke Katie Doherty's 5,000-meter record from 2003. Doherty set the Centennial Conference record at 16:54 in 2003. Paulsen's time tops the NCAA Division III rankings.

BLUE JAY LACROSSE CORNER

M. & W. Lacrosse Statistics

through April 30, 2009

Men's Team Leaders

GOALS:

Kyle Wharton - 28
Chris Boland - 23
Brian Christopher - 21
Steven Boyle - 18
Michael Kimmel - 17
Mark Bryan - 10

ASSISTS:

Michael Kimmel - 19
Steve Boyle - 15
Chris Boland - 13
Brian Christopher - 10
Kyle Wharton - 9

MEN'S GOALIES:

Michael Gvozden -
712:03 minutes,
9.52 GAA, 114 saves
Steven Burke -
18:24 minutes
6.52 GAA, 2 saves

Women's Team Leaders

GOALS:

Candace Rossi - 27
Colleen McCaffrey - 26
Brianna Cronin - 17
Brett Bathras - 16
Paige Ibello - 10
Sam Schrum - 9
Angela Hughes - 9

ASSISTS:

Brett Bathras - 13
Sam Schrum - 9
Rachel Ballatori - 7
Paige Ibello - 5
Candace Rossi - 4

WOMEN'S GOALIES:

Julianne Wisner -
475:20 minutes,
12.50 GAA, 76 saves
Lizzie O'Ferrall
383:29 minutes
12.94 GAA, 47 saves

SPORTS

Tennis goes unbeaten in conference

By SHANT KESKINYAN
Staff Writer

The men's and women's tennis teams took to the courts this past Saturday for their last regular season matches. The 12th-ranked men's team beat visiting Haverford 8-1 to clinch the Centennial Conference regular season title. It was the 29th consecutive conference win for the Blue Jays as they completed their third straight Centennial Conference season unbeaten. The men improve to 13-3 overall and 9-0 in the con-

Kinrade were up 7-1 over junior David Maldow and sophomore Andrew Wang before the two came back to win eight straight games to take the match 9-7. For Maldow it was the 106th win of his career, tying Joe Vasoontara's ('08) school record for total wins.

Coach Willenborg, who has been putting a considerable emphasis on doubles this season, was impressed with the teams for sweeping the doubles matches and setting the tone of the matches early on. "Maldow and Wang were down 7-1 and came back

For the women's team, junior Anita Bhamidipati and sophomore Yasmine Elamir put Hopkins on top at 1-0 with an 8-1 win at second. Junior Ellen Berlinghof and sophomore Abby Dwyer then won at third with an 8-2 win. It was their 10th straight win and their 13th win of the season, a team best. Senior Brittany Matava and freshman Carolyn Warren then wrapped up doubles play with an 8-3 win at first.

In singles play, freshman Malory Willenborg won her eighth straight match with a 6-3, 6-2 win at third. Matava ran her winning streak to 11 with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Porter at fourth. Dwyer did not drop a game in her win at fifth over Drooyan. And at sixth, junior Dory Giannos won 6-4, 6-3 to close out the match.

Coach Willenborg was pleased with the performance of the tennis teams this weekend.

"We had worked very hard to be in the position of playing for home court advantage for the conference tournament," Willenborg said. "We were very focused and were able to win some tough matches and secure the first seed in the tournament for both teams. We will see these teams again next weekend, so I thought it was important to play well and get some confidence and momentum going into the championships. The teams are well prepared for the upcoming championship and confident that they will handle the pressures of being the top seed."

The Lady Jays, who are the seeded first, will host the four-team Centennial Conference tournament Saturday and Sunday in Baltimore. Hopkins will face off against fourth-seeded Haverford in the semi-finals. The women are seeking a third straight Centennial Conference Tournament title. The men's team also earned a top seed and will host the Centennial Conference tournament next weekend.

The Jays will face off against fourth-seeded Washington College on Friday and are seeking their third straight and fourth overall Centennial Conference title.

for a 9-7 win against a very good Haverford team. We played strong throughout the singles and were able to win five of the six singles matches," Willenborg said.

In singles action, Wang improved to 19-2 on the season with a 7-5, 6-3 win at second over Kinrade. At third, Elgort won his match 7-5 and 6-2 for his 16th win of the season. Barnaby ran his win streak to 11 with a 6-3, 7-5 win at fourth over Rudolph. At fifth, freshman Orlando Ferrer dropped just three games in beating Stephen Feder. Blythe turned the same trick at sixth in his win over Yang.



DANIEL LITWIN/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Junior David Maldow earned his 106th career win, tying the Hopkins school record.

ference. On the women's side, the ninth-ranked Lady Blue Jays also beat Haverford 8-1 to secure their own third straight unbeaten Centennial Conference season. The Lady Jays, who have won 30 straight conference matches, improve to 11-3 overall and 10-0 in the conference.

The men swept all three doubles matches to take an early 3-0 lead in the match. Freshman Jacob Barnaby and sophomore Casey Blythe won 8-3 while freshman Warren Elgort and sophomore Ryan Rauck then won their match 8-5 at third. At first, Alex Buxbaum and Thomas

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK
CHEZ ANGELONI — BASEBALL

Angeloni draws attention from MLB scouts

By MARY DOMAN
Staff Writer

Some call him "primetime." Some, like his roommate Marco Simmons, call him a battler. Some, like his great-grandmother, call him Cezare, though others would say Chez. The one thing that senior pitcher Chez Angeloni is most proud to be called, though, is Athlete of the Week. "Being Athlete of the Week is a great honor," Angeloni said.

Even greater than throwing six complete games this season and taking six Haverford victims with strikeouts on Saturday? Greater than winning the Most Outstanding Player award at the NCAA championships last year? "That was lame," he said.

Maybe Athlete of the Week means so much to Angeloni because, according to him, the *News-Letter* took him out to dinner at Ruth's Chris before our interview. "It was delicious. I got a filet mignon," he claimed. Unfortunately, there is no proof to support Angeloni's claim.

Nor is there any proof that he's invincible to scratches, scrapes and prank jokes. Also, I haven't seen any evidence that he is a "human lie detector." And, lastly, I did not observe the "latent homosexuality" rechanneled into aggression that he says exists between him and Simmons (who participated in the interview). It appeared to me like they were just average friends.

But Angeloni is no average guy. Though he claims that he "doesn't have any secrets," An-

geloni is full of mystery. When asked if he was lying about his ability to bite through metal, he said "I never lie, but I do fib. Sometimes."

So his words could be true or

as Angeloni returned it to the pet store after it had served its duty. "I just felt bad for the family that bought it next," he said.

We may never know what the fate has in store for the Blue Terror,

but we have an idea of what the future holds for our beloved Blue Jay. Angeloni hopes to play in the minor leagues after graduation. "It's looking good so far," he says about his chances of being drafted.

Another thing that's looking good is Angeloni's wardrobe, which Simmons describes as similar to Michael Corleone's style, from *The Godfather II*. Not only does Angeloni compare to Corleone on the outside, but Simmons believes that the Godfather can be found in Angeloni's personality as well. "He's a great leader and a hard worker," Simmons said about his teammate. Just like

Corleone, I guess.

If Angeloni could be anyone, though, it wouldn't be the Godfather. It'd be Inspector Gadget, who, according to him, should not be labeled as an inspector but rather as

a superhero. Despite his incredible arm at the mound, he says his pitching skills are nothing compared to "go go gadget arm." "If I could have any superpower, I'd have go go gadget arm," he said, followed by an arm extension. "See? If my arms could go like Inspector Gadget's, I could reach that wall," he said, pointing to a wall 50 feet away.

So Angeloni

might not be Inspector Gadget, or Michael Corleone or a minor league baseball player . . . yet. But it's undeniable that this Blue Jay has the talent to pull off one of these futures; and, of course, a good prank or two along the way.

UPCOMING GAMES:

Friday, May 1
vs. Franklin & Marshall
Conference Tournament

false, but I can offer some hard facts about Angeloni that are as unbelievable as fiction. In 2008, he only allowed, on average, 4.8 runs per game against him as a pitcher (ERA). He held a 9-0

VITAL
STATISTICS

Year: Senior

Major: Economics

Hopkins Highlights:

Angeloni was a member of the NCAA All-Star team last year after holding a 9-0 record in the 2008 season. He is 4-2 thus far in the 2009 season and holds a 4.68 ERA.

Penn State squeaks past w. lax in season finale

By MIKE YUAN
Staff Writer

As Spring Fair kicked into full gear, the Lady Jays lacrosse team was unable to end their two game skid on Saturday as they dropped their third in a row to Penn State. Saturday was senior day at Homewood Field as it not only marked the last home game, but also the last game of the regular season. Despite the special occasion, the Jays came up short in the loss to the Nittany Lions, who are ranked 15th in the nation.

"Our main focus entering the Penn State game was to get a win for our seniors," head coach Janine Tucker said. "We fought hard to the end, but came up short."

The Jays opened up the scoring with freshman Colleen McCaffrey's free position shot 3:35 into play. After back-to-back goals by Penn State, freshman Candace Rossi and junior Angela Hughes retaliated with back-to-back goals in just 75 seconds to take a 3-2 lead.

However, the Lions came right back with three consecutive goals to build up a 5-3 lead. Hopkins soon after went on a two-goal run to tie the game at 5-5 as McCaffrey and Hughes found the net with 7:19 left in the half. The two goals would be the last scored by the Jays for the remainder of the half. Penn State was able to capitalize on the drought, scoring two goals to secure the lead into halftime.

Coming out of the half, Penn State picked up right where they left off, scoring three straight to amass a 10-5 advantage. Halfway through the second, the Jays found themselves down by only two as Hughes added another goal and junior Paige Ibello con-

tributed two more. After giving up another goal, Hopkins senior Gina Maranto scored off a feed from freshman Rachel Ballatori, making it 11-9 with 9:55 remaining. Trailing 12-9 with 8:51 to play, Hopkins began to rally back. Junior Sam Schrum and Hughes made it a 12-11 game with two unanswered goals. After a Blue Jay turnover, and with just 36 seconds left in the game, Penn State lost the ball out of bounds. With time winding down, Hughes

way because my teammates were very unselfish and set me up very well."

"We had worked on a new ride and added a set to our slow break for the Penn State game," Tucker said. "I thought we had a number of opportunities in the game, but were unable to capitalize on both ends of the field. We played hard, but have to play smarter."

Hopkins ends its regular season at 5-11, with a 0-4 record in the American Lacrosse Confer-

who are learning how to step up, make an impact and come into their own. No one wants to lose, but the lessons learned in handling losses with dignity and displaying perseverance will make us a stronger unit. I have been proud of the girls and how they keep coming back each day ready to work and grow — that takes courage — and our team will not give up. We play a very tough schedule and are proud of it — taking our lumps this year will set us up for future success because we are embracing the lessons learned — not feeling sorry for ourselves."

The Jays will face off again on Thursday at the ALC Tournament, hosted by Penn State. The fifth seeded Jays will match up against fourth seeded Vanderbilt in the opening round game. The Jays are coming off of a three-game losing streak, while the Commodores just finished off their regular season with an 11-4 win over Cornell, ranked 20th.

"Between now and Thursday, I think we really need to just focus on the little things," said Hughes. "We understand all the concepts but we are letting dropped balls or overthrown passes get in our way."

The winner faces top-seeded Northwestern in the first semifinal game on Friday. This is Northwestern's third straight time entering the tournament as the top seed. In regular season action, the Jays lost to both Vanderbilt and Northwestern, but will look for some post-season magic to reach the ALC final for the first time since 2007. The winner of the meeting against Northwestern will face the winner of Penn State vs. Ohio State game on Saturday in the championship game.



EILEEN HUANG/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR
Freshman Cami Kramer avoids the tough Penn State defense during the Jays' nailbiting 12-11 loss at Homewood.

made a final surge for the net, but the ball was checked out of her stick before she could get a shot off, ending the near comeback.

Hughes led the Jays with a career-high four goals, while Ballatori added a career-high three assists. McCaffrey and Ibello each scored a pair for Hopkins. Additionally, the Jays used four different goalies who totaled nine saves.

"I was really happy but had no idea that it happened until the end of the game," remarked Hughes on her new career high. "You just try to go out there every game and give it your all and four goals happened to come my

ence. The five wins stand three shy of last year's eight regular season wins. The game was the last regular season game for five seniors.

In reflecting upon the regular season, Tucker praised it as "a tremendous learning experience for our players and coaches alike. As disappointing as it was regarding wins and losses, it forced our team to fight through tough times, continue to work hard everyday, and stick together knowing that we will be better for having gone through a season like this. We have a young team, not just age-wise, but players across the board

M. & w. crew row strong at
Mid-Atlantic Rowing Champ.

By ERIC GOODMAN
Sports Editor

The Hopkins men's and women's crew teams competed at the first Mid-Atlantic Rowing Conference Championship on Saturday, finishing ninth with four points. Head coach Steve Perry was named the MARC Women's Coach of the Year.

For the women, the Varsity Eight crew finished fourth in its heat in 7:44.7 and then took first in the Petite Final with a time of 8:10.56. Sophomore Beth Simmonds served as coxswain while senior Vanessa Damm sat stroke. Senior Becky Williamson, freshman Elizabeth Carr, sophomore Pia Heilmann, junior Uejin Kim, senior Amelia Whitman, senior Madison West and freshman Adali Martinez rounded out the boat.

The Varsity Four took third with a time of 8:31.87. Simmonds served as the coxswain, with Damm at stroke, Whitman in the three seat, Heilmann in the two seat and Williamson in the bow.

Damm and Williamson were named to the MARC All-Region Team. Damm, Williamson, Kim, Adali Martinez and sophomore Katie Blumer earned MARC All-Academic honors for posting a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.50.

The "B" crew finished with a time of 7:26.13, placing fourth. Sophomore Eric Chen was in the

bow. Ammar, Webb and Ranieri sat in the other seats and Hou lead the boat as coxswain.

In the Novice Four, the crew finished with a time of 7:49.50, also taking fourth. Frank Yao sat in stroke, Bob Huang had the three seat, Cliff Jenkins-Houk sat at the two and Tyler Smith was in the bow. Kevin Chen was the coxswain.

The men's crew team captured bronze at the championships, earning 12 points. In addition, senior Taylor Reese and sophomore Will Cooper earned MARC All-Region honors.

The Varsity Eight crew took fourth in the final with a time of 7:27.77. Junior Stephen Hou served as the coxswain while Reese sat stroke. Cooper, senior Cameron Ward, junior Joshua, junior Adam Ammar, sophomore Max Thorsbakken, junior Pete Ranieri and sophomore Marcus Webb.

In the Varsity Four race, the "A" crew took second with a time of 7:10.48. Sophomore Alissha Tuteja served as the coxswain, while Reese sat in the four seat, with Crist and Cooper in the bow.

Tuteja, Reese, Crist and Ammar also earned MARC All-Academic honors for posting a cumulative GPA of at least a 3.50.

Hopkins returns to action on Sunday at the Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Championships in Lorton, VA.

FAREWELL

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Window Left: Katlyn Torgerson, Alex Vockroth Window Right: Heather Barbakoff, John Kernan
Front (clockwise from left): Demian Kendall, Doyeun Kim, Anne Faber, Daniel Litwin, Lily Newman, Christina Warner, Sam Eckstein, Alex Traum, Thomas Danner, Husain Danish, Kat Baselice, Phyllis Zhu, Leah Mainiero, Eric Goodman, Angeli Bueno

To our Editors-in-Chief

Thank you for your hard work and dedication. Your contribution to the *News-Letter* has been immeasurable. We wish you all the best in the future. Now go reclaim your lives!



Heather "Pickles" Barbakoff
We'll miss your baked goods and funky wide belts.



Britni "Listening to Incubus" Crocker
Good DP ads come to those who lurk.

Congratulations to our 2009-2010 Editorial Board



Stephen "the Science Guy" Berger
Who will diagnose our mysterious illnesses now?



Katlyn "Chief Angry Bear" Torgerson
Wait. What's the new format for continues?

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Alex "(Diet) Coke Addict" Vockroth
Maybe talking to a layout does help to finish it faster.

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Jane Yee
Ming Wen



Alex "Chief Questioning Goat" Traum
The best editorial observer in *News-Letter* history.

Thank You to our Business Staff

Elliot Wehner, Griffin Barnet, Alexandra Downs, Jordan Fenn-Hodson, Simran Hundal, Demian Kendall, Amanda Jean-Boyle, Andrew Gaddis, Liz Schwartzberg